FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

21 FEBRUARY 1984

Lebanon

Israeli Raids, Movements — Israeli aircraft attacked "terrorist" targets in the Bhamdun and 'Ayn al-Jadidah areas on 21 February, the IDF spokesman stated in an announcement broadcast by IDF Radio. The raid followed a 19 February attack on targets in Bhamdun, Hammana, and Ad-Damur, which was likewise announced by the IDF spokesman in a statement reported by the radio. A military spokesman cited by Damascus radio said Syrian air defenses "confronted" the attacking Israeli planes in the 19 February raid, which Jerusalem radio said was intended to demonstrate that Israel will not allow "terrorists" to resettle in areas vacated by the IDF.

Meanwhile, Voice of Lebanon radio and the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon carried numerous reports on Israeli troop movements north of Sidon toward Beirut on 20 February and claimed that Israeli warships bombarded positions south of the capital. An Israeli spokesman cited by Voice of Lebanon denied reports of a naval bombardment and a landing operation, as did an Amal Movement source quoted by Beirut radio, as well as the clandestine opposition radios Voice of the Mountain and Voice of Arab Lebanon. Nevertheless, the Voice of Lebanon subsequently maintained that Israeli vehicles had approached the outskirts of Beirut and that Israeli gunboats and helicopters were seen off the Ash-Shuf coast on 21 February, providing reinforcements for the Israeli brigade deployed between the Al-Awwali River and Ad-Damur. Voice of the Mountain confirmed that an Israeli force moved northward along the coastal road in the Al-Kharrub area on 20 February while Damascus television said "observers" link the IDF movements with a possible Israeli military operation to "abort" the victory scored by the Lebanese nationalist forces.

Diplomacy — Saudi mediator Rafiq al-Hariri met with President Amin al-Jumayyil in Beirut on 20 February and subsequently left for Damascus to join Crown Prince 'Abdallah, Beirut radio reported. Voice of Lebanon said the Saudi envoy gave Al-Jumayyil new proposals to solve the crisis which include cancellation of the 17 May agreement with Israel and treating the Israeli and Syrian military presence "in different ways."

The new proposals followed Syria's rejection of the eight-point proposals as an "obvious deception." The Syrian stand, announced by an "information source" in a statement broadcast by Damascus television on 17 February, viewed Al-Jumayyil's proposals as "an implementation and not a cancellation" of the 17 May agreement because they call for measures to guarantee Israel's security and for the simultaneous withdrawal of Syrian and Israeli forces. After conveying the proposals approved by Al-Jumayyil to President Hafiz al-Asad in Damascus, Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal admitted in remarks reported by SPA that Al-Asad had rejected the "Lebanese plan" but had submitted alternative proposals which Saudi Arabia would convey to the Lebanese Government. In a related development, Crown Prince 'Abdallah arrived in Syria on 20 February and discussed the Lebanese situation in a closed meeting with Al-Asad, according to Damascus radio and television.

Earlier, the Syrian president held a lengthy meeting with Amal leader Nabih Birri in Damascus while other Lebanese opposition and Palestinian dissident leaders also held intensive talks with Syrian officials, according to Radio Monte Carlo. Birri subsequently traveled to northern Lebanon for talks with northern opposition leaders Rashid Karami and Sulayman Franjiyah, stating afterward in remarks broadcast by Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon that he views Al-Jumayyil's eight-point proposal as a "miniature 17 May agreement." Birri also said security in West Beirut should be maintained by the Internal Security Forces rather than by militia factions, according to Beirut radio. On the other hand, Radio Monte Carlo said Birri told journalists that Amal and PSP forces will preserve security in West Beirut and in the Palestinian camps, where there is consequently no need for a Palestinian military presence. Both Birri and PSP leader Walid Junblatt reaffirmed their call for President al-Jumayyil's resignation, the radio noted.

In Beirut President al-Jumayyil said in remarks broadcast by Radio Free Lebanon on 17 February that his latest proposals — "King Fahd's plan" — could allow Lebanon to "go beyond" the agreement with Israel and reach a "new package" that would ensure the withdrawal of foreign forces and allow the formation of a broad-based government of national reconciliation. The following day, in a statement broadcast by Beirut radio, Al-Jumayyil promised that the government would investigate possible "excesses" by the Army in the southern suburb but warned that the main issue to be discussed is now the survival of the country, which is "dying."

Israeli Position — Israel will "never accept a unilateral abrogation of an agreement signed by us and another country" and will consequently not accept abrogation of the May 1983 agreement with Lebanon, Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir stated in remarks broadcast by Jerusalem radio on 19 February.

Iran-Iraq War

A statement issued by the chief of the Joint Staff of the Islamic Republic Armed Forces and carried by Tehran radio on 18 February announced that Iran will suspend attacks on Iraqi cities "for the time being" in order to evaluate the sincerity of Iraq's declaration not to attack Iranian residential areas. Should Iraq resume such attacks, however, Iran will once again respond "in kind." This conditional moratorium is not applicable to the battlefronts, where Iranian forces will continue fighting until "final victory," the statement concluded.

According to Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, this announcement "neutralized" Iraqi allegations that Iran was unwilling to reciprocate in ceasing attacks on each other's cities, IRNA reported. An Iraqi military spokesman, commenting on

this statement in remarks reported by Baghdad radio, questioned why attacks on Iraqi civilian targets were not stopped immediately after the Iraqi announcement to halt residential shelling. If Iran is serious about this stand, it will be willing to accept international supervision to prevent violations. Rejection of such supervision would indicate Iran's intention to continue its "hostile trend under false propaganda pretexts," and continued enemy strikes against Iraqi cities will force Iraq to defend the security of its people, the spokesman said.

Meanwhile, in the Val-Fajr V operational theater, an Iranian communique broadcast by Tehran radio on 19 February reported the destruction of Iraq's 4th Mountain Infantry Brigade and the "crushing" of more than half of the 50th Armored Brigade of the 12th Army Division in operations which resulted in 1,500 enemy casualties. Six more Iraqi counterattacks were defeated, the communique added. However, the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command communique for 19 February, carried by Baghdad radio, reported that Iranian forces had suffered "heavy losses" in men, weapons, and equipment with a "large number" of men killed or wounded.

An Iranian commander in the Val-Fajr operations, in a 17 February interview reported by Tehran radio, said Iranian forces had succeeded in taking control of the strategic Tib-Badrah road, recapturing a number of important heights, and controlling several important waterways including the Chenguleh River. Iranian forces are now only 40 km from the Tigris River, the commander added.

Meanwhile, thousands of Iranian volunteers are being dispatched to the war fronts to deal the "last blow" to the Iraqi regime, Tehran radio reported. President 'Ali Khamene'i, in a 20 February speech reported by Tehran radio, said Iranian forces are awaiting the signal to deliver this blow and that Iran "will soon complete" its task.

A Kuwaiti Foreign Ministry spokesman denied reports that Kuwait is in the process of exerting new efforts to mediate between Iran and Iraq through peaceful means, KUNA reported. A Kuwaiti envoy went to Tehran to deliver a reply message to Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati from his Kuwaiti counterpart, KUNA announced. During the 2-day visit, Velayati acquainted the envoy with Iran's stance toward the war. Meanwhile, Ayatollah Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri met with the Libyan ambassador to Iran on 20 February, Tehran radio reported, to affirm his country's willingness to help Iran fight against its enemies.

Iran and Iraq exchanged two diplomats in Turkey, Ankara ANATOLIA reported citing "sources" in Istanbul. Iranian and Iraqi consular officials refused to comment on the exchange.

Jordan-Libya

Jordan must "radically reassess" its relations with Libya following the burning and plundering of the Jordanian Embassy in Libya by demonstrators abetted by Libyan security police, Prime Minister Ahmad 'Ubaydat told the Jordanian Senate on 20 February in a speech broadcast by Amman radio. Although Libyan officials have apologized for the incident, 'Ubaydat said, Jordan holds the Libyan authorities responsible for planning and guiding the seizure of the building since they organized the demonstration and their security police joined the crowds storming the embassy. He added that the Jordanian Government will make a "final decision" on its relations after the return of the Jordanian Ambassador to Amman on 21 February. Meanwhile, The Amman papers *AR-RA'Y* and *JORDAN TIMES* urged the government to break relations with Libya.

JANA and Tripoli radio reported that Palestinian and other Arab "masses" demonstrated outside the Jordanian Embassy to protest King Husayn's recent visit to the United States. Although Libyan security men tried to prevent the demonstrators from getting too close to the embassy, JANA said, the thousands of demonstrators achieved their objective and burned the Jordanian flag.

PLO Affairs

PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat will arrive in Amman on 21 February, the Amman paper *SAWT ASH-SHA'B* reported. Meanwhile, 'Arafat has accepted an invitation to visit the PRC in March, Tunis radio noted citing WAFA.

In another development, PLO International Department chief Faruq Qaddumi arrived in Damascus and held talks with Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, according to Radio Monte Carlo. Although Kuwait's *AL-QABAS*, cited by KUNA, reported that Qaddumi's visit was aimed at restoring PLO relations with Syria, a Palestinian source quoted by Radio Monte Carlo said Qaddumi was on a private visit and had no intention of attempting to reconcile President al-Asad and 'Arafat.

Israel

Jordan Policy — Israel has "moderated" its opposition to the establishment of a Jordanian strike force as a result of U.S. guarantees that the force will not be used against Israel, Jerusalem radio reported. Nevertheless, Israel has informed the United States that it continues to oppose a separate U.S. arms deal with Jordan involving the supply of Stinger antiaircraft missiles, the radio noted.

West Bank — Supporters and opponents of Yasir 'Arafat clashed in "violent brawls" at An-Najah College in Nabulus on 19 February, according to Jerusalem radio.

Sudan

The Army killed 30 of the "outlaws" who attacked a Nile steamer on 14 February, the deputy commander in chief of Sudan's Armed Forces announced in a statement reported by SUNA. He also indicated that the Army is strictly guarding Sudan's oilfields and the Jonglei Canal project.

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Baghdad PLO Radio on U.S. Meetings, Recognition

JN201916 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1630 GMT 20 Feb 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] The U.S. Administration has denied a report by *THE NEW YORK TIMES* on a dialogue that took place between U.S. Administration officials and the PLO. The U.S. Administration reaffirmed its commitment to the promises that it made to Israel that the U.S. would not initiate this dialogue and would not recognize the PLO as long as the PLO does not recognize Israel. It is obvious that the U.S. Administration is concerned about confirming its stands, which are hostile to the Palestinian people and the PLO. The U.S. Administration was shocked by President Mubarak's statements in which he called for U.S. recognition of the PLO as a condition for achieving progress in the peace process.

Although the U.S. Administration has been supporting ambushes and the setting of traps for the PLO in order to gradually drag it into making political concessions in return for recognition by the United States, the PLO — as U.S. officials admit — has acted cleverly and escaped these ambushes and traps. It has not and will not make any political concession in return for U.S. recognition. The PLO looks forward with great concern to being recognized by the United States, and considers that this recognition — when it takes place — will be a great political achievement. However, it will not make any concession in return for this recognition, particularly since the PLO enjoys an excellent international status and does not find itself obliged to make concessions.

The U.S. Administration will lose a lot by being subjugated to Israeli blackmail and to Israeli hostility to the Palestinian people. The series of continued failures that U.S. policy in the region has encountered is undoubtedly due to the U.S. stand that is vehemently hostile to the Palestinian people, their rights, and their national leadership. We are certain that U.S. policy will meet further failure if it pursues such an aggressive trend. Therefore, the PLO, which is struggling to gain support for our people's rights, will not hesitate to continue its struggle in order to obtain the widest international recognition and support. It will never make any concession in return for this recognition and support, because it is aware that its cause is just and that the world's conviction in and support for this cause is inevitable without bargaining and concessions.

Qaddumi Reportedly in Damascus To Restore Relations

LD171438 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1405 GMT 17 Feb 84

[Text] Kuwait, 17 Feb (KUNA) — Fatah Central Committee member Faruq Qaddumi left Kuwait yesterday for Damascus in a bid to restore severed relations between PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat and Damascus, it was said here today. No official confirmation of this report has been received. Quoting Palestinian sources, the Kuwaiti paper *AL-QABUS* said Qaddumi's visit was preceded by intensive contacts which ended with approval of this visit.

The sources said contacts "on the highest levels," will take place between Fatah and Syrian officials, followed "by a summit meeting between Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad and 'Arafat in Damascus if agreement can be reached."

The sources said propaganda tirades between the two sides stopped a short while ago, and a number of Arab countries and the USSR have played a major role in bringing the views of both sides closer and securing a reconciliation between them following 'Arafat's eviction from Damascus and following battles in Tripoli, northern Lebanon, last year. The sources affirmed that major steps will be taken to restore relations between the PLO and Syria to their former state.

Further Details

JN171527 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1500 GMT 17 Feb 84

[Text] According to informed Palestinian sources, Faruq Qaddumi, head of the PLO Political department, is expected to meet with Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam during the next few days. Qaddumi arrived in Damascus yesterday on a private visit to some of his relatives. The Kuwaiti newspaper *AL-QABAS* expressed the belief that Qaddumi came to Syria to begin a possible reconciliation between Damascus and the Fatah organization.This may be followed by a summit between President Hafiz al-Asad and Yasir 'Arafat, Fatah leader and PLO chairman.

Qaddumi Meets Khaddam

JN180630 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0500 GMT 18 Feb 84

[Text] A Palestinian source in Damascus has stated that Faruq Qaddumi, head of the PLO Political Department, who arrived in Damascus on Thursday is on a private visit and has no intention of interceding with the Syrian authorities in order to achieve reconciliation between Yasir 'Arafat and President Hafiz al-Asad. Qaddumi met with Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam immediately after his arrival in Damascus.

'Arafat Meets With USSR, PRC Ambassadors

LD201812 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1755 GMT 20 Feb 84

[Text] Tunis, 20 Feb (SPA) — The PLO Executive Committee chairman, Yasir 'Arafat had meetings with the Soviet and Chinese ambassadors. WAFA reported that the two meetings dealt with the latest developments of the Palestine and Middle East issues.

Gives USSR Envoy Message

LD210936 Algiers APS in Arabic 0800 GMT 21 Feb 84

[Text] Tunis, 21 Feb (APS) — PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat yesterday delivered a message for the USSR leaders to the Soviet ambassador in Tunisia dealing with the current situation in the Middle East. Reporting this, WAFA

said that 'Arafat was accompanied during his meeting with the Soviet ambassador by Khalil al-Wazir, alias Abu Jihad, deputy commander in chief of the Palestine Revolution forces, and Hakam Bal'awi, PLO representative in Tunisia.

'Arafat May Visit PRC

LD202343 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 20 Feb 84

[Text] WAFA said today that the Chinese Ambassador in Tunis handed the leader Yasir 'Arafat an official invitation from the Chinese Government to visit China. The agency added that Yasir 'Arafat told the Chinese ambassador of his acceptance of this invitation. On this occasion, he gave the ambassador a message to the members of the Chinese leadership connected with the latest developments in the Middle East region on all the Palestinian, Arab, and international levels. WAFA said that 'Arafat's visit to China may take place toward the end of next March.

Fatah Meetings Begin In Tunis 20 Feb

JN210752 Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 21 Feb 84 p 1

[Text] Amman — The Fatah Central Committee meetings began at the Palestinian headquarters in Tunis yesterday. A responsible Fatah source said yesterday that the committee wil discuss a report from Khalil al-Wazir [Abu Jihad] regarding his talks with Jordanian officials. The source said that this will take place prior to Yasir 'Arafat's visit to Jordan within the next few days. The source added that the committee will also discuss the issue of the Fatah movement's fifth general congress and the report of its preparatory committee.

'Arafat Holds Series of Meetings in Tunis

JN181659 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 18 Feb 84

[Text] In Tunis, brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] held a number of working meetings with several Palestinian cadres. He discussed with them the latest developments on various levels and the results of his visit to Moscow where he participated in the funeral of the late Soviet Leader Yuriy Andropov and met with a number of leaders of friendly states.

Fatah Dissident on Palestinian Role in Lebanon

JN172035 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1800 GMT 17 Feb 84

[Interview with Nimr Salih, leader of the Fatah dissident movement — identified here by his nom de guerre Abu Salih — by Radio Monte Carlo correspondents Antoine Abu Samra and Louis Faris in the weekly program "It Happened Tomorrow"; place and date not given — recorded]

[Text] [Louis Faris] Brother Abu Salih, as far as you are concerned in the Fatah movement leadership in Syria and Lebanon — and also your colleagues, the leaders of the other organizations who are allied with you — did you participate in the recent combat operations in Lebanon? What is your position vis-a-vis the Lebanese nationalist forces?

[Nimr Salih] Regarding the Lebanese arena, we are present in it. This presence affects and is affected by the incidents taking place in the Lebanese arena. As you and everyone else knows our forces are under the orders of the Salvation Front, which moves them the way it wishes in accordance with the interests of the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples, because our interests are one in confronting Israels and U.S. plans.

[Antoine Abu Samra] But Brother Abu Salih, Walid Junblatt held a press conference in the Syrian capital a few days ago in which he said: We absolutely support Palestinian rights, but we frankly say that we refuse to return to the situation that preceded the Israeli invasion. In other words, Walid Junblatt is against the armed Palestinian presence in Lebanon that existed before the Israeli invasion. As you said, you are fighting alongside Walid Junblatt and the Salvation Front. Why are you fighting?

[Salih] As I said, the cause is one. Israel and the United States wants Lebanon — its people and land — wants Palestine. We and the Salvation Front are in one trench in defense of Lebanon — land and sovereignty — and for the sake of the Palestinian people's rights, because the enemy is one. These objectives bring us together. Regarding what Junblatt said, we also do not want to return to the situation that existed before in Lebanon. Junblatt means the negative actions that used to take place in Lebanon and that used to be practiced by certain symbols which we have destroyed. These practices were the main cause of the upheaval. We do not want to establish an authority in Lebanon. We as Palestinian Arab strugglers, want to be on the side of the Salvation Front in its battles for Lebanon's unity and sovereignty and for dealing defeat to the Israeli-U.S aggression. Just as Walid Junblatt is always concerned about the Palestinian people and their rights, we also are always concerned about Lebanon's sovereignty and the unity of this people. We will not do anything that is not in harmony with the unity and sovereignty of this people.

[Abu Samra] Did you actually participate in the military operations that took place in the recent battles. especially in the past few days?

[Salih] Frankly, we announced a long time ago that we have reorganized our forces in the Lebanese arena. It is inconceivable for us to stand by with hands tied before the Israeli arrogance which is persecuting Lebanese and Palestinian citizens. As I said, we are with the Salvation Front. In many areas, we are resisting the Israeli occupiers. Regarding the recent incidents, the Salvation Front is in charge, and our forces are under the orders of the front,, which it moves as it wishes. But I believe that the Salvation Front does not need us to wage the battles it is fighting. All factions of the Lebanese people are rallying around it. I believe that they have acted in the best manner possible.

[Abu Samra] Is the Palestinian side that participated in these battles the Fatah upheaval only, or are these other groups such as the PFLP-GC, As-Sa'iqah, and other resistance groups?

[Salih] All the resistance groups in the Lebanese arena are now united by one military operations room.

[Abu Samra] Including the popular front [PFLP] and the democratic front [DFLP]?

[Salih] Yes.

[Abu Samra] Junblatt said that the Liberation of West Beirut guaranteed the safety of the Palestinians in Sabra, Shatila, and Burj al-Barajinah camps. The safety of Palestinian civilians will also be guaranteed by the nationalist forces. Is this enough, in your opinion, or are you thinking of guaranteeing this protection yourselves one day?

[Salih] Once we live under a national regime, many differences will disappear. Walid Junblatt said: Regarding the Palestinian future, we will hold a dialogue with the leadership of the upheaval and the allies. Yesterday, we held sessions. These sessions will continue. Regarding the Palestinian camps, the question is not the Palestinian camps. The question is Lebanon — its land and sovereignty — the Israeli presence, and the future of the struggle in the region. We and Walid Junblatt will not differ with regard to our dialogue with the Slavation Front. We are brothers in one trench. What they consider is in the interest of Lebanon, we will abide by. And what we consider is in the interest of our people and their cause, safety, and the continuation of its revolution, they will also abide by. I do not believe that there will be any difference between us. We are in a continuous dialogue on this question. Regarding any dialogue between us and the Lebanese authority, this would he governed by the agreements between us and the authority.

[Abu Samra] By virtue of your participation in the battles that took place in the mountain and on the coast, do you intend to transfer these battles to southern Lebanon in the future? Since you have often stated that the armed struggle with Israel is continuing, will you shortly move to a battle and armed struggle with Israel in southern Lebanon?

[Salih] Our struggle against the Zionists is continuous and will not stop. But the development and geographical expansion of this struggle is linked to the situation in the Lebanese and Arab arenas. As I said, we will not do anything that conflicts with the interests of our allies or places responsibilities on them. Our struggle continues. It will remain in the areas on our Palestinian territory and everywhere where the Israeli forces exist, because this is our duty and it will continue.

[Abu Samra] Thank you Abu Salih.

TANJUG Interviews Fatah Rebel Al-Labadi

LD171752 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1633 GMT 17 Feb 84

[By special correspondent Miodrag Radovic]

[Text] Damascus, February 17 (TANJUG) — There will be no reconciliation, no compromise with 'Arafat. We have nothing against him personally but involved are two opposed political lines, said Mahmud al-Labadi, chief spokesman for Fatah's rebeling and, until recently, one of Yasir 'Arafat's closest associates.

Talking to TANJUG's special correspondent in Damascus, Al-Labadi stated that 'Arafat was no longer the absolute leader of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) and that he could not make decisions in the organization's name.

The headquarters of 'Arafat's opponents in a quiet Damascus square is not easy to find. Housed in the basement of a four-story apartment house, its atmosphere does not recall the turbulence of Beirut's Faqani quarter where the headquarters of the Palestinian revolution was based. Only the rhetoric in this basement remains the same. The words used here are big, the account of objectives inflexible and endlessly broad.

"We are the winning majority. The people, especially after 'Arafat's trip to Cairo, saw that he was taking the American line. He is losing and no longer enjoys his earlier popularity," says Al-Labadi.

Asked about the Palestinian state, Al-Labadi replies: "We'll continue to fight." To the question where, hespecifies: "Everywhere. In Israel and in Lebanon."

Are there any Palestinian fighters in Lebanon today?

"They are everywhere, even in Lebanon, only there they have gone underground," says Al-Labadi.

Is your goal to return to Lebanon? "Why not... we fight the Israelis everywhere."

'Arafat endeavoured to preserve the independence of the PLO's decisions and actions. How independent is this movement?

"We are fighting against Israel and the more we fight, the more independent we are. One cannot be independent if one goes to Cairo or Amman. We are not a state nor a government. We are a liberation movement, and the job of a liberation movement is to fight against the occupier."

How dependent are you on Syria?

"We aren't. It better to be here than in Tunisia or Yemen. Syria is the only place where we must be after leaving Beirut because Syria is close to Palestine. The Syrians have no reason to exert influence on us since the only decision we must take is the decision to fight."

Will you fight from Syrian territory?

"There is no need to wage a battle from Syria. For that, there is the West Bank and southern Lebanon. We are in Lebanon, although underground."

Leader of the strong Lebanese Amal Shi'ite militia Nabih Birri has stated that they will not allow armed Palestinians to return to southern Lebanon. Lebanese Druze leader Walid Junblatt made a similar statement yesterday. What are your relations with them?

"It is true that the Amal is a new force and that they are fighting against the Israelis. We therefore support them as we do all those who fight against Israel."

Mahmud al-Labadi, who was 'Arafat's spokesman for eight years, today says that he went over to the rebels' side because he could not agree with 'Arafat's policy which, he maintains, led only to ruin and capitulation.

[Word indistinct] does 'Arafat keep [word indistinct]?

"No one wants to liquidate 'Arafat. We have nothing against him personally. But battles were fought. Men died because of 'Arafat. He was always in his office," replied Al-Labadi speaking across his desk.

The struggle will have to go on for decades in the present balance of forces.

"It's the only way because we have no other. Our children will carry on our struggle but there will be no capitulation."

What is something happens meanwhile... If some political effort gives birth to a Palestinian state? Would you fight against that state?

"We'll always fight against Israel and we'll talk about that possibility when it arises. However, nothing is happening now. There will be no compromise. Neither the United States nor Israel are willing to yield. Why should the Palestinians be the only ones to make concessions? says Al-Labadi, repeating: "Our only option is to fight."

The corridor leading to the office was guarded by a fighter. He was about 12 yeas old and shouldered an unloaded Kalshnikov.

Syria, Fatah Dissidents Differences Reported

JN190825 Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 19 Feb 84 p 19

[Text] Amman — Reports from Damascus mention that acute differences emerged recently between Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and Abu Salih [Nimr Salih], leader of the Fatah dissidents, and that these differences have even spread among the dissidents themselves — namely, between Colonel Abu Khalid al-'Amlah and Abu Salih. Observers expect the dispute between the Syrians and the dissidents to exacerbate, particularly after the dissidents attempted to interfere in the form of the alliance that exists between Syria and Walid Junblatt, leader of the Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party who continues to reject the dissidents' return to Lebanon.

Al-Jumayyil Said Behind U.S. Embassy Bombing

GF181410 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 17 Feb 84 PP 1, 9

[Sattar Jabbar report]

[Excerpt] Shaykh Hasan al-Misri, official in charge of information in the Amal Movement, has disclosed during a telephone conversation with the newspaper *AL-WATAN* from Beirut that the movement has executed the persons who kidnapped the sons of the Kuwaiti consul in Beirut. He said: We will not allow any person to raise sedition and we appreciate Kuwait's positive stand on Lebanon.

Shaykh Hasan said Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad, Kuwaiti deputy prime minister, foreign minister and information minister, has contacted Nabih Birri [Amal leader] and thanked him for the movement's stand on the kidnapping. He disclosed that Amin al-Jumayyil was personally behind the assassination of Shaykh Halim Taqi Ad-Din, the official in charge of the Druze supreme judiciary and that he was also behind the bombing of the U.S. Embassy in Beirut to irritate U.S. public opinion against nationalist forces in Lebanon.

He noted that a press conference will be held shortly to disclose a number of vital and serious issues on the security situation in Beirut. Shaykh Hasan said Al-Jumayyil was also behind the kidnapping of the Saudi consul whose fate is still unknown.

In his telephone conversation with *AL-WATAN*, Shaykh Hasan said all those who had carried out bombings and assassinations are detained by Amal and we will "show them shortly in the press conference; we will ask foreign reporters to talk with them so that they can see the facts themselves."

DFLP Spokesman on Israeli Raids on Palestinians

JN191759 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1720 GMT 19 Feb 84

[Louis Faris dispatch from Damascus]

[Text] The spokesman of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP] has said that today's aggression by the Israeli planes against some Palestinian and Lebanese progressive forces positions will only enhance the determination of the Palestinian revolution to support the Lebanese National Salvation Front and the Amal Movement in alliance with Syria until the Israeli occupation is removed from all the Lebanese areas and until the 17 May agreement is foiled. No official Syrian reaction has so far been issued in this regard.

'Arafat Congratulates Chernenko on Election

JN191752 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 19 Feb 84

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has sent a congratulatory cable to Comrade Konstantin Chernenko on his election as CPSU General Secretary. The following is the text of the cable:

Comrade Konstantin Chernenko: Greetings of the revolution. On the occasion of your election as CPSU general secretary in the friendly USSR, I am pleased to send to you, all the CPSU members, and the friendly USSR people in my own name and on behalf of our Palestinian Arab people and the brothers in the PLO Executive Committee, our heartfelt congratulations and warm greetings, and wishes for success in your fruitful activity. I also express my great thanks and appreciation for your support

of our people and their national cause throughout the long years of difficult struggle that our Palestinian Arab people have waged and are waging under the PLO in order to liberate their homeland and achieve their inalienable rights to repatriation, self-determination, and the establishment of the independent Palestinian state on our national soil.

Your election as leader of your glorious party reflects the great confidence in your wisdom, courage, and ability to effectively contribute toward defending world peace and security, confronting the policy that supports U.S. imperialism, and supporting the issues of liberation in the world.

We are confident in the great and principled support for our people by all peoples and freedom- and peace-loving peoples, foremost being our friends in the socialist bloc, particularly the friendly USSR which stands resolutely at the side of our just struggle. We are also confident of our ability to surmount this difficult stage that confronts us, pursue struggle with the comrades of the forward trench — the Arab and world progressive forces — against imperialism and Zionism and their designs thatare aimed at controlling the entire region, and regain our inalienable national rights to liberation, independence, and progress.

I wish you continued good health, happiness, and success under the CPSU in order to resume its internationalist march in accordance with the principles that governed its glorious historical march. Revolution until victory!

Libyan Envoy Reportedly Met Mubarak in Morocco
JN171808 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1720 GMT 17 Feb 84

[Text] Diplomatic sources in Rabat today disclosed that Munammad [name indistinct], the special envoy of Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, recently held secret talks with Egyptian President Muhammad Husni Mubarak during the President's stay in Morocco. These sources said that King Hassan II of Morocco played an important role in arranging this meeting.

GULF AFFAIRS

GCC Defense Conference Opens in Qatar

GF201120 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0935 GMT 20 Feb 84

[Excerpts] Doha, 20 Feb (WAKH) — The opening session of the GCC defense minister's conference began in Doha this morning under the chairmanship of Shaykh Hamad ibn Khalifah Al Thani, Qatari heir apparent and defense minister.

The opening session was attended by Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa Al Khalifah, Bahraini heir apparent and commander in chief of the Bahrain Defense Force; Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, Saudi second deputy prime minister, defense and aviation minister and inspector general; Shaykh Salim as-Sabah as-Salim, Kuwaiti defense minister; Mr Fahr ibn Taymur al-Sa'id, Omani deputy prime minister for security and defense affairs; Shaykh Muhammad ibn Rashid Al-Maktum, UAE defense minister; and Mr 'Abdallah Ya'qub Bisharah, GCC secretary general.

Second Session Begins

GF201907 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1800 GMT 20 Feb 84

[Text] Doha, 20 Feb (WAKH) — The third conference of the GCC defense ministers resumed its second closed session here at 1630 this afternoon.

The session was chaired by Shaykh Hamad ibn Khalifah Al Thani, crown prince, defense minister, and commander in chief of the Qatari Armed Forces, and was attended by the GCC defense ministers, GCC Secretary General 'Abdallah Ya'qub Bisharah, and members of the official delegations.

During this meeting, the ministers will review the ideas and points of view on the issues put forth by the GCC military committee during the first closed session.

Second Session Concludes

GF201915 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1900 GMT 20 Feb 84

[Text] Doha, 20 Feb (WAKH) — The third conference of the GCC defense ministers concluded its second closed session, which lasted 3 hours and was attended by the GCC defense ministers, GCC Secretary General 'Abdallah Ya'qub Bisharah, and members of the official delegations.

Following this session, 'Abdallah Ya'qub Bisharah stated that the defense ministers approved the proposals put forth by the GCC chiefs of staff, who met in Doha last week. The proposals deal with the consolidation of military cooperation and deepening defense relations between the member council countries, and came as a result of the decisions by the GCC Supreme Council during its two conferences held in Bahrain and Doha.

The GCC defense ministers will resume their third closed session at 1000 tomorrow morning (Tuesday) in the Doha Sheraton Hotel.

Kuwaiti Minister Reviews Agenda

GF201900 Manama WAKH in English 1645 GMT 20 Feb 84

[Text] Kuwait Feb, 20 (WAKH) — Kuwaiti Defence Minister Shaykh Salim as-Sabah as-Salim said that the GCC defence ministers will discuss three items in the two-day meeting in Doha.

He said the first item is the recommendations of the GCC leaders, and the second is the reports of the air defense, air force, navy and infantry committees which convened throughout last year. The third item of discussion is the report of the GCC chiefs of staff who concluded their last meeting in the Qatari capital.

Shaykh Salim noted that the ministers will discuss those reports from strategic, tactical and financial perspectives.

On coordination between GCC states on the purchase of arms, the defense minister said the GCC was established to promote cooperation and coordination, but the issue of weapons is still left for individual members to decide in accordance with their needs.

On the Iraq-Iran war, Shaykh Salim said the issue will be discussed by his GCC counterparts in the Doha meeting and stressed the GCC states unified stand embodied in exerting all efforts to halt it.

The minister described the blocking of the Straits of Hormuz as an open invitation for superpowers to intervene in our internal and security affairs, which we do not accept and will fight against on all levels.

KUWAIT

Envoy Leaves With Message for Iran's Velayati

LD190931 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0906 GMT 19 Feb 84

[Text] Kuwait, 19 Feb (KUNA) — A Kuwaiti envoy left at midnight for Dubai on his way to Tehran. The envoy, the director of the office of the deputy prime minister and foreign and information minister, Ambassador Sulayman Majid ash-Shahin, will leave Dubai for Tehran later today with a reply message from the Kuwaiti deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs and information, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir for his Iranian counterpart, 'Ali Akbar Velayati.

A Foreign Ministry official said yesterday that the Kuwaiti foreign minister had received a letter from Velayati on 11 February, but he did not reveal the contents of the message or that of the Kuwaiti reply.

Arab League's Klibi Postpones Scheduled Visit

LD191230 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1140 GMT 19 Feb 84

[Text] Kuwait, 19 Feb (KUNA) — KUNA has learned that Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi has postponed his visit to Kuwait. It was scheduled for tomorrow.

An informed source at the Kuwaiti Foreign Ministry stated that

the postponement is at the request of Klibi himself, "for health reasons." The source did not mention a new date for the visit.

Klibi was to discuss the reasons for and conditions that led to the postponement of the 13th Arab summit conference.

Oil Minister Views Closure of Hormuz

GF181612 Manama WAKH in English 1520 GMT 18 Feb 84

[Text] Kuwait, 18 Feb (WAKH) — Kuwaiti Oil Minister Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifah as-Sabah has said that blocking the Strait of Hormuz is "difficult or impossible from an organizational point of view."

In an interview with the Kuwaiti newspaper *AS-SIYASAH* published today, Shaykh 'Ali said the greatest threat the Strait of Hormuz would face is the chaos that would result from hitting an oil tanker by war parties. This, he said, would create a climate of apprehension in international circles.

"In such a case, Al Khalifah said, the price of oil would increase by $4-8 a barrel."

The minister elaborated on such a price increase by saying: "It would be limited to a short period of time, but later it may drop lower than the present $29 base price." He added that such a temporary disturbance to the price and supply systems would make the market indicator point downwards, while currently pointing a slow upward demand and consumption.

When international financial circles predict that blocking the Strait of Hormuz would have positive effects on the oil market for exporters, he said that such an act would add another comedy episode to the chain of costly mistakes.

OMAN

Sultan Qabas Receives Saudi Prince's Message

LD192108 Riyadh SPA in English 1913 GMT 19 Feb 84

[Text] Muscat, Feb 19, SPA — Sultan Qabus of Oman has received a message from Crown Prince 'Abdallah, the Saudi regent. The message was delivered by the Saudi charge d'affairs here, Issam Rashid, during a meeting here earlier today with Omani Deputy Premier for Legal Affairs Fahd ibn Mahmud al Bu Sa'id. During the meeting, the two sides reviewed bilateral relations and the current situation in the Arab Gulf region, as well as questions of mutual concern.

PDRY

Supreme Council Concludes Session in Aden

GF171934 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 17 Feb 84

[Text] The meetings of the second session of the Supreme Yemeni Council concluded today. They were held under the chairmanship of Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council, and chairman of the Council of Ministers, and Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the northern part of the homeland, the commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and the secretary general of the General People's Congress.

Brother Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih and his accompanying delegation left Aden today for San'a'. Upon departure, they were seen off by Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and the brother members of the Political Bureau and the YSP Central Committee, in addition to the ministers and members of the southern delegation to the session.

The session discussed the report presented by the secretariat of the Yemeni council on the standard of the implementation of the resolutions of the first session of the Yemeni Council and the unity activities that were undertaken in the period between the two sessions. The session also reviewed the Arab situation, in addition to coordinating the position of the two parts of Yemen toward it.

Brother 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih made the following statement prior to his departure: [Begin recording] I am very pleased about the convening of the second session in Aden. I believe that the convening of this session reflected special importance. The results of this session were positive and important. They will bring good results to our Yemeni people in both the northern and southern parts. The resolutions are positive and efficient. The Yemeni council urged the executive bodies in the two parts to quickly implement the resolutions adopted by the council in both in its first and second sessions. [end recording]

YSP Chairman Receives PFLP, DFLP Officials

GF201354 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 20 Feb 84

[Text] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, and chairman of the Council of Ministers, received separately today in his office at the secretariat of the party's Central Committee the delegation of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [PFLP], led by Brother Abu 'Ali Mustafa, assistant secretary general of the front, and the delegation of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP], led by Brother Salah Ra'fat, member of the Political Bureau of the front.

During the meeting, the recent situational developments in the Middle East were discussed, particularly the situation in the Palestinian arena, in addition to other issues dealing with the bilateral relations between the YSP and the PFLP and the DFLP respectively.

The brother secretary general also received Brother Fawwaz Trabulsi, assistant secretary general of the Organization of Communist Action in Lebanon. During the meeting, Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad heard a description of the recent developments in the situation in the Lebanese arena, in light of the heroic resistance of the Lebanese people and their national movement

against the Zionist invaders and the U.S. military presence in Lebanon. They also discussed the confrontation of the plots aimed at tearing apart the unity of the Lebanese people.

The brother secretary general reaffirmed our country's support of the Lebanese people in their heroic struggle to restore Lebanon's unity and its sovereignty and independence.

SAUDI ARABIA

Prince Sa'ud Makes Statement on Return From Syria

LD181814 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1750 GMT 18 Feb 84

[Text] Riyadh, 18 Feb (SPA) — The foreign minister, His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, made a statement on his arrival at King Khalid International Airport from Damascus this evening.

He said: On the basis of his majesty the king and his faithful crown prince's instructions, and within the continual endeavors which the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has not stopped exerting in order to bring closer the views of the brothers in Syria and Lebanon, I conveyed to His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad the plan prepared by the Lebanese Government in preparation for the second session of the Lebanese national dialogue in Geneva.

The Lebanese plan was rejected by His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad. His excellency forwarded alternative proposals which we shall convey to the Lebanese Government. We pray to God to support all those working for Arab issues.

Foreign Minister Receives Lebanese Ambassador

LD191859 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1825 GMT 19 Feb 84

[Text] Jidda, 19 Feb (SPA) — The foreign minister, His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, this evening received at his office at the ministry here the Lebanese ambassador to the Kingdom, Dr Zafir al-Hasan.

During the meeting, which was attended by a ministry under secretary, 'Abd al-'Aziz ath-Thunayyan, and an under secretary for political affairs, 'Abd ar-Rahman Mansuri, they discussed the situation in Lebanon.

Current Lebanon Mediation Efforts Clarified

LD172046 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2025 GMT 17 Feb 84

[Text] Riyadh, 17 Feb (SPA) — A responsible source has made a statement in which he commented on what had been reported by information media to the effect that the Kingdom had proposed an eight-point plan to end the Lebanese crisis.

He said that the Kingdom had not put across a specific plan, but its efforts were focused on trying to bring about accord and rapprochement between the various points of view of all the Lebanese sections, proceeding from its firm faith that there is a higher common interest on which all views and minds can meet.

The source stressed that the Kingdom will continue its efforts in this direction so that dear Lebanon may achieve the security, stability, and prosperity to which it aspires.

King Fahd Returns From European Tour

LD192305 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2210 GMT 19 Feb 84

[Text] Riyadh 19 Feb (SPA) — His Majesty King Fahd Ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz this evening returned to the Kingdom after attending the Fourth Islamic Summit Conference in Rabat and visiting a number of European capitals — visits which attracted the interest of Arab and international political and diplomatic circles.

He was welcomed at King Khalid International Airport in Riyadh by His Royal Highness Crown Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, deputy prime minister and commander of the National Guard; Prince Mit'ib ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, minister of Public Works and Housing; Prince Badr ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, deputy commander of the National Guard; Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, governor of the Riyadh region; 'Abd al-Ilah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, governor of the Al-Qasim region; Sattam ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, deputy governor of the Riyadh region, and a number of other princes, ministers and senior civil and military officials.

Prince 'Abdallah Leaves for Syria Visit

LD201133 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0952 GMT 20 Feb 84

[Text] Riyadh, 20 Feb (SPA) — His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, crown prince, deputy prime minister and commander of the National Guard, left King Khalid International Airport at 1200 today, with the protection and care of God, for a 2-day visit to Syria. His highness will from there continue his trip on an official visit to Britain.

His royal highness was seen off by Prince Mit'ib Ibn 'Abd Al-'Aziz, minister of Public Works and Housing; His Royal Highness Prince Badr ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, deputy commander of the National Guard; and a number of princes, ministers and senior civilian and military officials. May God protect his highness at his places of stay and during his visits.

Foreign Minister 'Ali Comments on Mubarak Tour

JN181504 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 18 Feb 84

[Text] President Husni Mubarak this morning held a meeting with Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din, the prime minister; Dr Kamil Layla, the People's Assembly speaker; Dr Husni 'Abd al-Halim, the Consultative Council speaker; Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; Field Marshal 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and defense minister; Dr Mustafa Kamal Hilmi, deputy prime minister and minister of state for education and scientific research; Dr Salih Hamdi, the minister of finance; Dr Kamal al-Janzuri; Dr Safwat as-Sharif, minister of state for information; and Dr Hasan Abu Basha, the minister of interior. Following the meeting, Kamal Hasan 'Ali stated the following:

[Begin Kamal Hasan 'Ali recording] Today's meeting was held to discuss President Husni Mubarak's tour of Africa, France, and the United States. The president reviewed with the Political Committee and the Economic Committee his visit to the four African states: Zaire, Kenya, Somalia, and Tanzania. The president also reviewed his political discussions regarding the African and Middle East problems, these countries' positions toward the African and Middle East problems, and the results of his talks concerning bilateral relations and the means of promoting them in all the economic, educational, and technical fields.

The meeting also dealt with the president's visit to Morocco, his discussions there, and the mutual viewpoints concerning Arab issues, Egyptian-Moroccan relations, and bilateral cooperation in all fields. The two countries are also willing to promote bilateral relations in all fields.

The meeting also dealt with the president's visit to France during which the Lebanese situation was reviewed because France is part of the Multinational Force in Lebanon.

The president also remarked on his visit to the United States, his talks there on the Lebanese issue and the Middle East problem, the need for dealing simultaneously with the Lebanese and Middle East problems, the statements that he made at the White House after his visit to Washington to give momentum to the peace process and the settlement efforts through the Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue, and to encourage the PLO to adopt that course. President Husni Mubarak has encouraged the PLO and the United States to hold a dialogue. [end recording]

Further on 'Ali's Statements

JN181625 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1400 GMT 18 Feb 84

[Text] Cairo, 18 Feb (MENA) — Following the 3-hour meeting that President Husni Mubarak held at the Al-Qabbah Palace this morning, Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, said that the meeting discussed the results of President Mubarak's African tour and his visit to France and the United States. 'Ali said that the president reviewed the results of his African tour and his discussions there on the African and Middle East problems. He added: The meeting also discussed these countries' positions toward these problems and the results which were reached concerning bilateral relations and the means of promoting them in all fields.

In his statement, Kamal Hasan 'Ali also said: The president also reviewed his visit to Morocco, where he exchanged viewpoints concerning Arab issues and bilateral relations. He added that the two countries are strongly willing to bolster relations of cooperation in all fields.

He said: President Husni Mubarak reviewed his visit to France, where he discussed the situation in Lebanon in light of the French participation in the Multinational Force in Lebanon and the disputing parties' positions in Lebanon. He added that the Egyptian and French viewpoints were identical concerning the need for the withdrawal of foreign troops from Lebanon, and finding an alternative to the Multinational Force — namely, UN peace-keeping forces — and the necessity for realizing a national reconciliation in Lebanon.

'Ali also said: President Husni Mubarak also touched on his visit to the United States, his talks there on Lebanese and Middle East issues, the need for dealing with both the Lebanese and Middle East issues simultaneously, and the statements that he made after his meeting with President Reagan at the White House to give momentum to the peace process and the settlement efforts through a Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue to encourage the PLO to adopt that course. President Mubarak had encouraged the PLO and the United States to hold a dialogue. He also added that the president also reviewed the talks concerning Egyptian-U.S. relations in the economic field, Egypt's demands pertaining to this cooperation, and the issue of giving sufficient flexibility for using grants and loans.

Concerning the autonomy talks, Kamal Hasan 'Ali said: Because these talks have reached a deadlock, the framework of the talks should be expanded to include Jordanian and Palestinian participation on new bases, and that this is the PLO's position toward the Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue which we should support with all our capability.

Regarding the escalation of the Iraq-Iran war, Kamal Hasan 'Ali said: This attack [not further identified] takes place at a time when all parties are seeking to realize stability in the Middle East region. This attack is an escalation that will exhaust the two countries. He also appealed to the two sides not to escalate the battle and strike at civilian targets in the two countries, because such an escalation will harm the people of both countries.

Mubarak To Send Messages on Results of Trip

JN191833 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1744 GMT 19 Feb 84

[Text] Cairo, 19 Feb (MENA) — MENA has learned that President Husni Mubarak is expected to send messages to the leaders of friendly countries on the results of his last tour. President Mubarak visited Zaire, Kenya, Somalia, Tanzania, Morocco, France and the United States.

President Mubarak's messages, which Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, conveyed to President Ja'far

Numayri, falls within the framework of the existing special relations between Egypt and Sudan.

Spokesman Views Syrian Rejection of Saudi Plan

JN181444 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1420 GMT 18 Feb 84

[Text] Cairo, 18 Feb (MENA) — Commenting on Syria's rejection of the Saudi plan to settle the Lebanese crisis, an Egyptian Foreign Ministry spokesman said that there is an intransigent attitude in the positions of the Druze, the Shi'ites, and Syria. MENA has learned that these positions may be connected with the current fighting around the Suq al-Gharb area which is the last Lebanese Army stronghold, and that much depends on the results of this fighting.

The Foreign Ministry spokesman expressed hope that an agreement on something will be reached, and that all parties will show flexibility in order to effect national reconciliation and national participation in ruling the country. He said any further deterioration in the situation will lead to Lebanese partition which is completely unacceptable.

Ghali Instructs Envoy to Security Council on Lebanon

JN172054 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1924 GMT 17 Feb 84

[Text] Cairo, 17 Feb (MENA) — Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali, in a telephone contact today, asked Tawfiq Khalil, Egypt's permanent UN representative and the head of the Egyptian delegation in the Security Council, to urge the Council to play a positive, effective, and decisive role with regard to the Lebanese problem. Dr Ghali affirmed Egypt's position on the need for a UN solution to the Lebanese problem based on the withdrawal of foreign forces from Lebanon — particularly the Israeli forces — the return of Lebanese sovereignty over every inch of Lebanese territory, the realization of national unity among the various Lebanese factions, and the prevention of Lebanon's partition.

The UN Security Council began its discussion of the Lebanese situation on Wednesday, particularly the French draft resolution that calls for replacing the Multinational Forces in Beirut with a UN force.

Radio Commentary Laments Crisis in Lebanon

JN171613 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 17 Feb 84

[Usamah 'Abd al-Ghani commentary: "Once Again, Where Do We Begin Solving the Crisis in Lebanon and the Middle East?"]

[Text] Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil has agreed to abrogate the Israeli-Lebanese agreement within the framework of a Saudi plan to bring peace to Lebanon. The decision of President al-Jumayyil has disturbed the Government of Israel, which through its Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, made a threatening warning that this step will undermine the sovereignty of Lebanon and will be a catastrophe for peace in the Middle East.

Although we do not think that abrogating the Israeli- Lebanese agreement is enough to bring peace to the region, we still see it as proof of the failure of the objectives of Israel's invasion of Lebanon. There is talk inside Israel about allegations directed at Menahim Begin, the former prime minister, and his minister of defense at that time, Ari'el Sharon, that they kept secrets pertaining to the invasion of Lebanon from the Knesset, hoping to justify the invasion. It was said that they insisted on the invasion at any price and that they ignored all the warnings and intentionally kept from their government a U.S. peace plan that Yasir 'Arafat prepared for consideration. The plan called for the withdrawal of Palestinian artillery from southern Lebanon to positions that do not threaten Israeli settlements in exchange for the reduction of the Israeli presence in southern Lebanon.

Whether the talk about the Begin government planning to set up a Lebanese Phalangist government that would sign a peace agreement with it is true or not, the statements made by Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil yesterday to the French magazine *PARIS MATCH* have stressed that his real problems began when the Israeli-Lebanese agreement was signed, and that he had no other alternative but this agreement. Otherwise, southern Lebanon would be lost to the Israeli occupation forces as has happened to the Golan.

It is our opinion that even if the Saudi initiative and the French proposal to deploy UN troops in place of the Multinational Force in Beirut are good for containing the Lebanese crisis, the only way to solve this crisis and any other crisis in the region begins by solving the Palestine question.

U.S. President Reagan announced that he is in agreement with President Husni Mubarak and King Husayn of Jordan that solving the Palestinian question is basic for the process of peace in the Middle East. What remains is for the United States to change its position on not recognizing the PLO unless the PLO recognizes Israel.

Israel was established from the beginning on this basis of usurping Palestinian lands and expelling the Palestinians from them. So how can they be forced to first recognize the legitimacy of this usurpation and their expulsion from their homeland as a precondition for the beginning of talks with them? If it is possible to accept Israel as a fact, then how is it not possible to also accept the PLO as a fact, although the PLO exists as a natural legitimate expression of the right to resist usurpation and occupation.

If solving the Palestinian question is a basis for peace in the Middle East, then the beginning of dialogue with the legitimate representatives of the Palestinian people is the only correct beginning for solving the question of this people, whether this is accepted by all sides or not.

'Ali Returns Home From Khartoum Visit

JN192020 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 19 Feb 84

[Excerpt] Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, returned to Cairo this evening from Khartoum after a visit of several hours.

During the visit, he conveyed a message from President Husni Mubarak to President Ja'far Numayri.

'Ali, French Envoy Discuss Lebanon Situation

JN201822 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1420 GMT 20 Feb 84

[Text] Cairo, 20 Feb (MENA) — Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, met with Philippe Cuvillier, French ambassador in Cairo, today to review the deteriorating situation in Lebanon and the efforts to confront this situation and solve the Lebanese problem.

During the meeting, 'Ali affirmed Egypt's stand on this problem. He stressed the need to preserve Lebanon's national unity and to continue the withdrawal of foreign forces, especially the Israeli forces.

Mubarak Meets With Jewish Organization Officials

JN201847 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1420 GMT 20 Feb 84

[Text] Cairo, 20 Feb (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak received at Al-Qubbah Palace this morning Julius Berman, president of the Jewish Organizations Conference, and his deputy Yehuda Hillman.

In a statement after the meeting, Berman said that he and President Mubarak discussed several issues pertaining to the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty and the progress of the peace process.

Berman added: We are anxious about the lukewarm relations between the two countries. He said: President Mubarak reaffirmed to us that he is committed to the peace treaty and the peace process, and he denied that rapprochement between Egypt and Islamic countries has taken place at the expense of Egypt's relations with Israel. The president also stressed that relations between Egypt and Israel can be as good as Egypt's relations with the Islamic countries.

Berman said that he and President Mubarak also discussed the issues of completing the search for the Israelis who were reported missing in action during the 1967 and 1973 wars, particularly because Egypt had promised to offer assistance in this respect and because this operation was suspended recently.

Berman said that President Mubarak promised that he would instruct 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production, to arrange for this operation to be completed and for the search to be resumed immediately. Berman added: We also discussed Egypt's relations with U.S. Jewish communities and Jewish communities in general.

In reply to a question on the steps Israel must adopt to promote Egyptian-Israeli relations, Berman said that President Mubarak raised the issue of reactivating the Palestinian cause and the Tabah issue today. He said that President Mubarak pointed out that these issues can be settled if good intentions exist.

Berman said that his meeting with President Mubarak today took place because he was in Israel when the president was visiting Washington.

Ghali Meets With U.S. Congressional Delegation

JN182036 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2015 GMT 18 Feb 84

[Text] Cairo, 18 Feb (MENA) — Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, received this evening the U.S. Congressional delegation currently visiting Cairo under Wyche Fowler.

Talks dealt with the Middle East developments and the importance of pushing the peace efforts forward in order to reach a settlement for both the Palestinian and Lebanese problems. They also dealt with the importance of the continuation of the U.S. role in the service of peace in the Middle East.

Salim, Delegation Return Home From Moscow

JN170803 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0700 GMT 7 Feb 84

[Text] Cairo, 17 Feb (MENA) — Mamduh Salim, assistant to the president of the republic, and his delegation returned home early this morning after a 1-week visit to the USSR, during which they attended the funeral of the late Soviet leader Yuri Andropov.

Yugoslav President To Visit Cairo 25 Feb

JN171954 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 17 Feb 84

[Text] President of the SFRY, Mika Spiljak, will pay an official visit to the Arab Republic of Egypt on 25 February 1984.

He will hold talks with President Muhammad Husni Mubarak on international issues, the developments in the Middle East, the role of the nonaligned countries in the reduction of world tension, and solving international problems.

The two presidents will also discuss ways to further bilateral relations in all fields.

Armed Forces General Command Issues Communiques

No 1,375 — 17 Feb

JN171755 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 17 Feb 84

[Communique No 1,375 issued by Armed Forces General Command on 17 February 1984]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

While fighting the tyrant Iranian enemy in defense of their national soil, principles, and shrines, the sons of our great people and our brave Armed Forces will remain, God willing, aspiring to glory and greatness. Their absolute confidence in clear victory and their determination to triumph will continue to grow.

The results for last night and today are as follows:

1. At 1015 today, two Iranian enemy planes infiltrated across our international borders and raided residential areas in the town of 'Ali al-Gharbi in the Maysan Governorate. Our air defense means confronted them and forced them to flee. The enemy raid resulted in the martyrdom of 16 civilians, the injury of 13 others, the demolition of 3 civilian shops and 2 houses, and damage to a number of houses and 4 civilian vehicles. Last night and today, the criminal Iranian regime continued to shell the cities of Basra, Mandali, Khanaqin, Ash-Shihabi, (Qazanqaya), and Tuwaylah with heavy artillery causing the following losses of life and material:

Basra: Two were martyred, 14 were injured, and 3 houses were demolished. Mandali: One house was damaged. Khanaqin: One was injured and one civilian vehicle was damaged. Ash-Shihabi: Four civilian vehicles were damaged. (Qazaniyah): One school was damaged. Tuwaylah: Three houses were demolished.

2. Our brave units continued their strikes at and the destruction of the rest of the enemy force that attacked our international borders' observation posts along the right flank of the II Army Corps yesterday. Our units carried out successful counter-attacks yesterday and today and inflicted heavy losses in men and equipment. The known enemy losses were more than 2,000 dead, many more wounded, and a number of soldiers captured. The captured enemy men were evacuated to the rear in the abovementioned sector. A number of enemy medium and light weapons and equipment were either destroyed or captured intact.

3. Sighting a number of enemy personnel opposite their positions in the northern sector of the front, our forward units opened fire killing or wounding a number of them. Our forces destroyed one infantry position and killed those manning it.

4. Using various weapons, one of our forward units pounded an enemy group that tried to advance toward our forward positions in the Maysan sector, forcing it to flee after inflicting on it losses in men and equipment.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 17 February 1984

No 1,376 — 18 Feb

JN181744 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1715 GMT 18 Feb 84

[Communique No 1,376 issued by Armed Forces General Command on 18 February 1984]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The sons of our great people and valiant Army are continuing their brave fight against the forces of the sinful Khomeyniite regime. The results for yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. Our valiant units are continuing to pound and destroy the enemy concentrations and defeated remnants on the right flank of the II Army Corps, inflicting large losses in life and equipment. Through splendid coordination with our ground units, the valiant pilots of our helicopter gunships carried out daring combat missions and blows against the enemy troop concentrations and units in the same sector, and supported our valiant forces in pounding and destroying the enemy's remnants. Our helicopter gunships scored direct and effective hits on the enemy concentrations and positions, killing or wounding a number of personnel, and destroying quantities of enemy weapons and equipment. All our helicopter gunships returned safely to base, praise be to God.

2. Yesterday evening and today, the forces of the criminal enemy shelled Basra, Mandali, Khanaqin, Zurbatiyah, and their suburbs with heavy artillery, causing the following losses in lives and properties:

Basra: 16 martyrs, 24 wounded, 5 houses and 5 shops demolished, 1 civilian car and some civilian establishments damaged. Mandali: Four houses damaged. Khanaqin: Some civilian establishments and properties damaged. Zurbatiyah: Losses were inflicted on several civilian properties.

3. Our forward units opened fire from all types of weapons on the enemy positions and troop concentrations in the areas opposite our positions east of Basra, killing three, wounding others, and destroying one hardware stockpile and two personnel positions. The occupants of the two personnel positions were killed.

4. Our forward units engaged with artillery a number of enemy vehicles opposite our positions in the northern sector of the battlefield, inflicting losses in personnel and equipment, and hitting one vehicle.

5. One hardware stockpile was destroyed in the Maysan sector.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 18 February 1984

No 1,377 — 19 Feb

JN191727 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 19 Feb 84

[Communique No 1,377 issued by Armed Forces General Command on 19 February 1984]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Our valiant Armed Forces, which inflicted on the enemy bitter defeats in all their previous heroic battles, will remain, God willing, an impregnable fortress facing the suspect tyrants and a sword that will obliterate all their unjust, aggressive attempts against our militant country and sacred soil. The results for last night and today are as follows:

1. Our brave units are continuing to deal strong blows to the enemy units and troop concentrations in the area that is situated on the right flank of II Army Corps, inflicting on the enemy heavy losses in men, weapons, and equipment. A large number of enemy men were either killed or wounded and quantities of enemy weapons, equipment, and hardware were destroyed.

2. Our Army helicopter gunships today carried out successful attacks against enemy concentrations opposite our forward units' positions in the central sector of the front scoring effective, direct hits. Other formations of our daring helicopters lent support to our brave units in striking and destroying enemy remnants and troop concentrations on the right flank of the II Army Corps and inflicted on the enemy losses in men and equipment. All of our helicopters returned safely to base. Thanks be to God.

3. Using various weapons, our forward units pounded enemy positions, vehicles, and troop concentrations in the area east of Basra, scoring effective hits and inflicting on the enemy losses in men and weapons. Our forces also destroyed one hardware stockpile.

4. Sighting a group of enemy soldiers opposite their positions in the Maysan sector, our forward units opened fire and forced them to flee.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 19 February 1984

No 1,378 — 20 Feb

JN201731 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1645 GMT 20 Feb 84

[Text] Baghdad, 20 Feb (INA) — Iraqi helicopters today carried out several raids against the Iranian forces' positions and troop concentrations in the central sector of the battlefield, scoring direct and effective hits.

Communique No 1,378 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command here this evening said that Iran shelled northern Kanaru with heavy artillery today, wounding one woman and destroying an elementary school. The communique added that Iraq's forward units today pounded several Iranian formations in the northern, central, and southern sectors of the battlefield, inflicting losses in life and equipment on the enemy. The following is the text of the communique:

Communique No 1,378 issued by the Armed Forces General Command. In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Our valiant Armed Forces continue their heroic confrontation of the aggressor Iranian enemy forces. The results of the activities yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. A force belonging to our forward units engaged an enemy force that tried to approach our units' positions in the northern sector of the battlefic'd with all types of weapons. A quick battle took place, during which the enemy sustained losses in life and equipment. Our valiant units succeeded in destroying the enemy force; only those who fled escaped death.

2. Our daring helicopter formations carried out several raids against enemy positions and troop concentrations today in the area opposite our forward units' positions in the II Army Corps sector . We scored direct and effective hits. All of our helicopters returned safely to base, praise be to God.

3. One of of our forward units confronted an enemy patrol that tried to approach its positions east of Basra. Our units besieged the enemy patrol and captured all of its members, who were evacuated to the rear.

4. An enemy troop concentration was sighted opposite one of our forward units' positions in the central sector of the battlefield. Our units pounded it with all types of weapons, killing five, wounding others, and forcing the rest to flee.

5. The criminal Iranian regime shelled the residential suburbs of Kanaru in Chuwartah District with heavy artillery today, wounding on woman and destroying part of an elementary school.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 20 February 1984

Spokesman on Iranian Suspension of Shelling

JN182223 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 2105 GMT 18 Feb 84

[Text] Commenting on a statement issued by the enemy chief of staff today in which they [the Iranians] at last have decided — 5 days after Iraq announced that it would cease shelling targets in certain Iranian cities — that they will not strike at Iraqi civilian targets in the future, a military spokesman has stated the following

It has been obvious from the beginning that the bloodthirsty Iranian regime was the one that began shelling Iraqi cities and villages as of 4 September 1980. We have often warned against and drawn attention to the dire consequences of this serious trend. However, the Iranian rulers have insisted on this trend. They continued to shell Iraqi cities and villages.

We have always said that we possess the means and the necessary weapons to inflict on them heavy losses if we are forced to strike at targets in Iranian cities. However, they did not desist. They continued their policy of murder and bloodshed until we were forced earlier this month to issue our well-known warnings.

In order to affirm our humanitarian position, and in response to an appeal by Mr Mas'ud Rajavi and the desire of the Iranian people, Iraq announced that it was stopping the strikes at targets in Iranian cities effective 1500 hours on 14 February. Iraq honestly adhered to this promise, but the regime of evil and aggression in Iran continued its savage shelling of Iraqi cities and

villages throughout the past 5 days, with the aim of killing women and children and destroying civilian establishments.

The following is a lst of the criminal Iranian regime's attacks over the past 5 days as reported in the Armed Forces General Command communiques.

Tuesday, 14 February: The losses sustained from the enemy artillery shelling were 29 martyrs, 126 wounded, 60 houses, 1 school, 1 mosque, 2 local hotels, 1 kindergarden, and 28 civilian cars.

Wednesday, 15 February: Losses sustained as a result of artillery shelling: 8 martyrs, 16 wounded, 8 houses, 2 schools, and 19 cars.

Losses sustained by aerial bombing: 17 martyrs, 53 wounded, 13 houses, 1 school, 2 cars, and 1 shop.

Thursday, 16 February: Losses sustained by artillery shelling: 13 wounded, 5 martyrs, 17 houses, 1 school, 1 mosque, and 7 civilian cars.

Friday, 17 February: Losses sustained by artillery shelling: 2 martyrs, 15 wounded, 6 houses, 1 school, and 5 cars.

Losses sustained by aerial bombing: 16 martyrs, 13 wounded, 2 houses, 4 cars, and 13 shops.

Saturday, 18 February: Losses sustained by artillery shelling: 16 martyrs, 24 wounded, 9 houses, 1 car, and 5 shops.

The enemy artillery and aerial bombing was directed at Basra, Khanaqin, Mandali, Ash-Shihabi, Sayyid Sadiq, Chandri, Tuwaylah, Khurmal, (Qazaniyah) Darband-i Khan, Ba'qubah, Wasit, Maysan, and 'Ali al-Gharbi.

These facts are additional evidence of the vile qualities of the Tehran rulers, who are thirsty for bloodshed and who are moved by grudges, backwardness, and suspect trends. If those murderers really wanted to stop striking the civilian targets, why did they not do so immediately after our announcement on the 14th of this month? They continued their shelling and destruction at a time when we honestly and precisely abided by our pledge. However, what the Iranian official announced is considered a triumph of our political and military trend. Our stand also underlines our humanitarian nature, whereas the behavior of the Tehran rulers underlines their criminal nature and the defeat of their political and military stand.

On our part, we will not say that we will stop our shelling only after killing as many Iranians as the murderous Tehran rulers had killed of our citizens during the past 5 days. We do not harbor evil toward the Iranian people, who are afflicted by their rulers who are obsessed by war, killing, and destruction. We are the owners of humanitarian principles and we call for peace. While adhering to the pledges we announced on 14 February, proceeding from our principles and ethics, we strongly emphasize the need to apply the principle of avoiding strikes at civilian targets under international supervision which would prevent Iran from violating this principle.

In this regard we would like to indicate that if the Tehran rulers are serious in their stand, it would be natural for them to accept this supervision. Their rejection of it indicates their intentions to continue their hostile trend under false propaganda pretexts. We stress that we will be forced to defend our people's security and interests if the enemy continues striking our towns and villages. We call on the Iranian people to put pressure on their rulers to agree to international supervision. We also call on the competent international bodies to follow up this subject seriously until the necessary international supervision is ensured.

Commenting on the statement of the hostile Iranian regime's official that they will continue the war against Iraq, the military spokesman said: If the killers and suspect ones who are ruling in Iran are in need of shedding more of the blood of their people in the battlefields, we are qualified for such battles. If they try again to launch an aggression on our land and sovereignty, we will be lying in wait for them as we have always been, and we will destroy their attacks and make them taste bitter defeat as we have done in all previous battles, from which they only reaped disappointment and loss.

May God grant us success. God is great.

[Dated] 18 February 1984

Commander Comments 17 Feb on Iranian Losses

JN171923 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1825 GMT 17 Feb 84

[Text] Baghdad, 17 Feb (INA) — A high ranking Iraqi military commander has stated that the Iranian forces sustained heavy losses in men and equipment as a result of their attack against the Iraqi international border observation posts. The commander of the Khalid Forces told an INA correspondent in the central sector of the front that the battleground where the battles are raging is covered with enemy corpses. He said that the II Army Corps fighters captured a great quantity of medium and light weapons as well as scores of enemy soldiers. He also said that the Iranian fighters contained the attacking Iranian groups and subsequently destroyed their vehicles and military equipment.

Air Force Denies Attempt To Bomb Khorramabad

JN172057 BAGHDAD INA in Arabic 2044 GMT 17 Feb 84

[Text] Baghdad, 17 Feb (INA) — The Air Force Command denied a Tehran radio report today that two Iraqi planes tried to bomb Khorramabad.

The Air Force Command said that Tehran radio broadcast this report to mislead world public opinion about our pledge to the Iranian opposition. The Command affirmed Iraq's complete abidance by the decision not to hit Iranian civilian targets until the end of the fixed period which was pledged to the Iranian opposition and which will end at 1500 on Monday.

The Command said that until that date, Iraqi air activities inside Iranian territory will be confined to photography and reconnaissance.

Air Force Planes Overfly Tehran 17 Feb

JN172227 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 2208 GMT 17 Feb 84

[Text] A military spokesman has stated the following:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. In order to remind the Iranian rulers of the capabilities of our Air Force, our planes flew over Iran at 2215 today and entered deep inside Iranian territory without bombing any targets because of our adherence to the political leadership's decision. Our planes tonight flew over Tehran, Qom, Kermanshah, Qasvin, (Ruk), Najamahabad, (Kolijian), Razan, (Astian), Malayer, Shal, and Zehabad.

The activities of our Air Force, in terms of bombing targets inside Iranian territory, will begin after the 7-day moratorium which will end at 1500 next Monday, God willing.

[Dated] 17 February 1984.

Spokesman Denies Helicopter Downed by Iran

JN201815 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1805 GMT 20 Feb 84

[Test] Baghdad, 20 Feb (INA) — An Iraqi military spokesman has denied Iranian claims that an Iraqi helicopter was shot down today over the southern sector of the battlefield.

In a statement to INA this evening, the spokesman said that Iraqi aircraft did not carry out any air activities in the southern sector today. He explained that today's air activities were restricted to raids carried out by Iraqi helicopters in the central sector.

An Iranian military communique broadcast on Tehran radio today claimed that an Iraqi helicopter was shot down.

Government Reiterates Welcome for UN Mission

JN191213 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1105 GMT 19 Feb 84

[Text] Baghdad, 19 Feb (INA) — UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar has expressed satisfaction with Iraq's reaffirmation that it supports his efforts to end the dispute between Iraq and Iran.

In a letter Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, received recently and which was published here today, the UN secretary general proposed sending a mission to Baghdad and Tehran in order to confirm that the two governments are committed to their official stands on the issues related to this dispute and to examine the areas that were the targets of military attacks.

In a message of reply to the UN secretary general yesterday, Tariq 'Aziz said that the Iraqi Government officially welcomes such a mission and agrees to its composition and the agenda of its visit to Iraq. Tariq 'Aziz reiterated Iraq's proposal to send another fact-finding mission to investigate the treatment ofprisoners of war in both Iraq and Iran.

Tariq 'Aziz added in his letter that this important issue acquires more serious dimensions following the 10 February dissemination of the International Committee of the Red Cross [ICRC] memorandum.

The memorandum confirmed that the Iranian authorities have been opposing any visit by ICRC representatives to Iraqi prisoners in Iran since last July, expressed satisfaction with the good treatment Iraq has been giving to Iranian prisoners, and stressed that Iraq has done its best to enable the ICRC representatives to regularly visit these prisoners.

'Ismat Kittani Briefs Envoys

JN181207 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1140 GMT 18 Feb 84

[Text] Baghdad, 18 Feb (INA) — 'Ismat Kittani, Foreign Ministry first under secretary, met this morning with the heads of the diplomatic missions of the countries that are permanent members of the UN Security Council.

He explained to them Iraq's positive stand toward the UN initiatives, including Iraq's stand on the UN secretary general's proposal to send a new mission to become acquainted with both Iraq's and Iran's viewpoints on reaching a peaceful solution to the dispute between the two countries.

'Ismat Kittani reaffirmed to the heads of these diplomatic missions the Iraqi Government's desire to respond to all efforts that the UN secretary general and the UN Security Council may exert to halt the fighting and reach an honorable solution to the dispute through peaceful means.

Kittani stressed that Iran is fully responsible for the failure of these efforts because of its rejection of the UN Security Council resolutions and the proposals submitted by the UN secretary general. He said that Iran's rejection of the proposed mission, as defined in the UN secretary general's letter to the two sides is evidence of this.

Ramadan Returns From Visits to Italy, SFRY

JN171200 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0940 GMT 17 Feb 84

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 17 Feb (INA) — Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, and his delegation returned here this morning at the end of a 4-day visit to Italy and Yugoslavia.

Ramadan told INA that he held talks with the Italian and Yugoslav officials on bilateral relations and the means of promoting them in the various fields, in addition to the latest developments of the Iraqi-Iranian war, the lack of international comment on the Iranian regime's escalation of its aggression against Iraq, and the grave dangers this escalation poses to the region and international interests.

Baghdad Reports Iraqi-SFRY Joint Statement
JN180845 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1710 GMT 17 Feb 84

["Text" of an Iraqi-Yugoslav joint statement issued following the 15-16 February visit to the SFRY by Taha Yasin Ramadan, Iraqi RCC member and first deputy prime minister]

[Text] Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister of the Iraqi Republic, paid an official and cordial visit to the SFRY from 15-16 February 1984 at the invitation of Mrs Milka Planinc, president of the SFRY Federal Executive Council. Mika Spiljak, president of the SFRY State Presidency, received Taha Yasin Ramadan during the visit. He conveyed to President Spiljak President Saddam Husayn's greetings and sincere good wishes to the SFRY president, the members of the SFRY state presidency, and the friendly Yugoslav people. President Mika Spiljak asked Taha Yasin Ramadan to convey his greetings and those of the SFRY state presidency to President Saddam Husayn and the friendly Iraqi people.

The two sides held talks in an atmosphere of mutual confidence and frankness, which characterizes the two countries' relations. During the talks, Taha Yasin Ramadan and Mrs Milka Planinc exchanged views on bilateral relations and the means of promoting successful cooperation between Iraq and the SFRY. The two sides reviewed the current international situation and the current world problems at this critical juncture. Taha Yasin Ramadan laid a wreath on the tomb of the unknown soldier in Avala, and visited the Josip Broz Tito memorial center and laid a wreath on President Tito's tomb.

The two sides noted the distinctive development of their two countries' political relations and stressed the importance of exchanging views at various levels. They agreed to continue their efforts and to devote the necessary attention to developing and strengthening all types of cooperation between the two countries. The two sides noted the advanced level of development that has been reached in their two countries' economic, scientific, and technical cooperation. They noted with satisfaction that greater posibilities exist for further expanding and developing their joint cooperation.

The two sides exchanged views on the current international situation. They expressed their profound concern over the threats to world peace posed by the continuous deterioration in the world's political and economic situation; by the reactivation of the ancient hotbeds of tension; by the appearance of new hotbeds of tension; and by the arms race, which calls for extreme concern because of the continuous confrontation of the superpowers and other power blocs. The two sides affirmed that the arms race and the aggravating international economic situation make the current situation more serious and threatening.

The two sides praised the role and importance of the nonaligned policy as an effective factor in international relations, and stressed both countries' roles in promoting this policy. They stressed the immense importance, during the aggravating current international situation, of the Nonaligned Movement states' activities to preserve international peace and stability and to the search for solutions to the accumulating problems in various parts of the world. The two sides pointed out the need for more effective implementation of the resolutions and recommendations of the nonaligned meetings, which would contribute toward strengthening the Nonaligned Movement's efficiency in solving the current urgent international problems.

The Iraqi side informed the Yugoslav side of the developments in the armed dispute with Iran and the situation in the Arab Gulf region. The Iraqi side reviewed Iraq's initiatives on various occasions to end the war and the dsipute between the two countries by peaceful means. The Iraqi side informed the Yugoslav side of the contents of the Islamic summit conference resolution that expressed satisfaction with Iraq's agreement on the UN Security Council Resolution No 540. The Yugoslav side appreciated the Iraqi position, and noted with extreme interest the Iraqi side's information concerning the Iraqi Government's efforts to end the armed conflict with Iran. The Yugoslav side expressed its profound concern over the continuation of this war, and stressed the need to end the war between the two countries by peaceful means, in accordance with the UN Charter and nonaligned policy.

The Yugoslav side reiterated its complete support for all of the initiatives and endeavors that are being exerted in this connection, both on the internal level and within the Nonaligned Movement.

The two sides expressed their concern over the recent developments that led to the escalation of the Middle East crisis — something that threatens peace and security in the entire region and prevents establishing the foundations for the Zionist forces' complete and unconditional withdrawal from the Arab territories that have been occupied since 1967, including the city of Jerusalem; and for recognizing the Palestinian people's inalienable national rights to return to their homeland, to self-determination, and to establish their independent state on their soil under the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. The two sides stressed the need to preserve the unity and independence of the PLO and to strengthen its ability to continue the struggle. The two sides strongly condemned the Zionist entity's expansionist, aggressive policy in Lebanon and stressed the need for Lebanon's national unity, independence, and sovereignty based on a complete and unconditional withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon.

During the visit, the Iraqi-Yugoslav joint committee for economic, technical, and scientific cooperation, held its [passage indistinct]

Ramadan Addresses Popular Army Fighters
JN171806 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 17 Feb 84

[Text] Comrade Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and commander in chief of the Popular Army, has asserted that the arrogant Iranian enemy, which understands only the language of force, will be crushed and utterly defeated, and will be taught unforgettable lessons. In a speech he made while seeing off a new group of fighters from the Popular Army in the Salah Ad-Din area who were heading for the front to confront the rancorous

Iranian regime's forces in the central sector, Ramadan said: This good group of Iraqi sons who are leaving for the fields of honor and struggle, shows our people's determination to continue confronting the Iranian enemy's aggression with determination and conviction in eventual victory.

Ramadan said: Through their active participation in the battle of Saddam's Al-Qadisiyah, these Popular Army fighters have proved that they are the reserve backers and the great asset of our brave Armed Forces in their confrontation and defeat of the Iranian enemy forces of aggression.

Ramadan conveyed to the fighters greetings from President Saddam Husayn and the party and revolution leadership, expressing his confidence that they will play an honorable role in confronting the tyrant, covetous aggressors and in teaching them a lesson.

A number of Popular Army General Command officials were among those who saw the fighters off.

Warns Iran Against 'Adventure'

JN181448 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1400 GMT 18 Feb 84

[Text] Baghdad, 18 Feb (INA) — Popular Army Commander Taha Yasin Ramadan has said that the fight against the Iranian forces will be strong, tough, and destructive. Addressing a group of Iraqi fighters leaving for the battlefront, the Popular Army commander said that Iraq's sons are fully prepared to bury any vile adventure by the Iranian rulers to desecrate Iraq's soil or undermine its sovereignty and security.

He added that the Iranian rulers should think for a long time before embarking on any military adventure, which will be doomed to utter failure and complete annihilation, and they should realize in advance that victory will be the lot of the Iraqi Armed Forces.

Ramadan Receives Bulgarian Ambassador 20 Feb

JN201631 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1350 GMT 20 feb 84

[Text] Baghdad, 20 Feb (INA) — Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, today received Bulgarian Ambassador in Baghdad Angelo Angelov. During the meeting, the two sides discussed the areas of cooperation between Bulgaria and Iraq, and the means of expanding and promoting them in all fields. They also reviewed the work of the Bulgarian companies operating in Iraq.

Oil Minister Meets Bulgarian Official, Delegation

JN201029 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0930 GMT 20 Feb 84

[Text] Baghdad, 20 Feb (INA) — Oil Minister Qasim Ahmad Taqi today met with Khristo Borisov Bonin, Bulgarian deputy minister of metallurgy and mineral resources and the accompanying delegation.

Ways of widening and improving the scope for cooperation between Bulgarian and Iraqi establishments specializing in oil production activities were discussed during the meeting. Both sides expressed their satisfaction with the progress of the projects being carried out by Bulgarian companies in Iraq.

Iraq, Iran Exchange 'Diplomats' 17 Feb

TA191447 Ankara ANATOLIA in English 1435 GMT 19 Feb 84

[Text] Istanbul, 19 Feb (AA) — Iran and Iraq exchanged two diplomats at Istanbul's Yesilkoy Airport two nights ago, it was confirmed by sources in Istanbul.

Iranian diplomat Hassan Cheragh was flown in from Baghdad while Iraqi diplomat Saif Aldain Ahmad was flown in from Tehran to be exchanged by consular officials of the two countries at Yesilkoy around 20:30 Friday evening under strict security measures by Turkish police.

The two men will be taken to their home countries soon, sources said. Consular officials of Iran and Iraq refused to comment on the exchange.

Demonstrators Burn Jordanian Embassy in Libya

JN181824 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 18 Feb 84

[Text] A responsible source in the Foreign Ministry has stated the following:

At 1300 today Jordan time, the Libyan Government instructed a group of its agents to besiege the Jordanian Embassy building in Tripoli. The group stormed the embassy and set it on fire while the ambassador and embassy staff were inside the building. The fire destroyed the embassy and its contents but the ambassador and embassy staff were able to escape with great difficulty.

The day before yesterday, Thursday, the official Libyan television broadcast an appeal in which it called on some groups to gather in the Green Square in Tripoli, which is close to our embassy, at 0900 on Saturday, a short while beore the premeditated incident took place. This morning, our embassy saw a number of Libyan security men around the embassy and in the streets leading to it. They told embassy personnel that they came to protect it against a demonstration which would take place in front of it today.

The Foreign Ministry deplores this premeditated criminal incident, which is contrary to all norms and conventions and which completely ignores Arab and Islamic morals and traits. The Foreign Ministry holds the Libyan authorities completely responsible for the incidents and all the consequences arising therefrom.

'Ubaydat: Relations To Be Reassessed

JN201450 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1214 GMT 20 Feb 84

[Statement by Prime Minister Ahmad 'Ubaydat to Senate on 20 February; carried in "Newsreel" program — recorded]

[Text] Mr Speaker, honorable senators: Regarding the incident involving the storming of the Jordanian Embassy in Libya, the government received information in a message that the official Libyan television announced on Thursday night, 16 February, that all Palestinian factions should gather at the capital's Green Square at 0900 on Saturday, 18 February. A mixed crowed gathered at the fixed time. Our embassy in Libya was not concerned with determining the nationalisties of that mixed crowd. At any rate, at the fixed time on Saturday, the streets leading to the embassy, the street on which the embassy is located, and the embassy bulding itself were surrounded by Libyan policemen, who told the embassy that a Palestinian procession would shortly march toward the embassy and that they had come to guard the embassy.

The procession arrived. The number of Libyan security men in uniform and in civilian clothes increased. Then the Libyan security men suddenly allowed the vanguards of these crowds to storm the embassy. They joined them in storming the embassy. Libyan security men in civilian clothes joined these chaotic elements in storming the embassy. All of the embassy employees were inside the building.

They entered the offices and set the contents on fire. Other elements began plundering the embassy of things that were easy to carry. Some Libyan women Army recruits took small items such as bags out of the offices; they ran out into the crowd and disappeared. The chaos continued as the embassy and its offices were burned. Only a small section on the third floor of the embassy remained safe. This was the communications room.

The situation became difficult. The members of the embassy staff could not leave the building in the normal manner, as the Libyan security men would not allow them freedom of movement. In fact, the doors were closed. The embassy staff were thus compelled to slide down the drainpipes. Some of them used ropes, and they finally managed to leave in this way. Libyan television was taking pictures of what was taking palce. The situation quieted down an hour later, and the demonstrators withdrew. By that time, the embassy staff had sought refuge in the Kuwaiti Embassy and made their initial contact with us through the Kuwaiti Embassy's communications system. This was the initial information that reached the Foreign Ministry. The ambassador was contacted by telephone several times, but we cound not obtain the details of what had happened.

That evening, we received a message saying that the ambassador had met with 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki, secretary general of the Libyan Foreign Ministry, at 2100 on Saturday — the day of the incident, the day of the storming of the embassy. During that meeting, the ambassador told At-Turayki what had happend, because the ambassador himself was inside the embassy. He told him how the storming took place and how the embassy and its contents were burned. At-Turayki personally apologized and emphasized that this incident should not affect the good relations between Jordan and Libya. He also told the ambassador that the incident should not have any effect on the two countries' relations or even on the feelings of the diplomats who were exposed to harm during the storming of the embassy. At-Turayki attributed what happened to what he termed the problems of all Arabs. He said that he would do his best to improve bilateral realtions bettween Jordan and Libya in the future. This is the gist of the cable we received from our ambassador through the Kuwaiti Embassy in Libya.

In light of this information, and after ascertaining — without any emotional reaction — the Libyan Government's minimum level of responsibility for this incident, the Foreign Ministry issued a statement on behalf of the government. This is the statement which you and all other citizens heard the day before yesterday. We saw some pictures on television yesterday of part of what took place. One must denounce the incident and hold the Libyan Government fully responsible for it, as there is accurate and irrefutable information.

On the same day, Saturday, the Foreign Ministry summoned the Libyan charge d'affaires in Amman. They briefed him on what had taken place, submitted a strongly worded protest, and denounced the incident. The Libyan charge's reply was that he had no knowledge of what took place, that he has not been put in the picture, that he cannot be held responsible in one way or the other for this incident, and that there is perhaps a third party in Libya that is behind this incident.

We then asked our ambassador in Libya to return to Jordan on the first flight. This was done so we could become acquainted with all the facts and so the government could take the appropriate steps that will help it to make a responsible decision on Jordanian-Libyan relations. This decision must be commensurate with the incident; one that will take into consideration Jordan's interests and the dignity of the Jordanian people, the Jordanian Government, the Jordanian regime; one that will consider the security and stability of Jordanian embassies and citizens abroad; and one that will be based on all levels of our responsibility toward our national institutions and toward our diplomatic presence. This decision will also take into consideration the principle of reciprocity, wherever necessary.

On the other hand, we instructed our security organs to continue protecting the Libyan Embassy in Amman, as this is part of the behavior of a country that respects both itself and international conventions and carries out its duties in the most dire circumstances. We also instructed our ambassador and the second in command to return to Amman with their families. This leaves only one person, the third person in command in the embassy, until the picture becomes clear and we decide what must be done because of this criminal incident. The Jordanian ambassador will arrive in Amman tomorrow, God willing.

At yesterday's cabinet session, we reviewed what took place and we told the cabinet members about the information we have. In our opinion, this information is incomplete. The information we have is clear in terms of what happened, but we need a more comprehensive picture of all the circumstances and implications. We believe our ambassador has not been able to completely apprise us of the situation, even though many contacts have been made.

The Libyan charge d'affaires in Amman asked the Foreign Ministry for an appointment, and we complied with his request. I believe he will communicate his government's official stand. The Foreign Ministry has prepared another memorandum to give to him, irrespective of what the Libyan side will submit. I have this memorandum before me.

I think it is proper to read the contents to the brother senators:

The Foreign Ministry of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan requests the Embassy of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah in Amman to convey the strong protest of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan to the Government of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah over the premeditated criminal incident to which our embassy in Tripoli was exposed at noon on Saturday, 18 February 1984. In this incident, a guided group burned the embassy and all of its contents according to a premeditated, planned, and official Libyan arrangement.

The Government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, while recording this serious precedence for the Libyan Government — which conflicts with the provisions of Articles 22 and 24 of the Vienna international agreement of 1961 on diplomatic relations, and which conflicts with the principle of the good Jordanian treatment of the Libyan Government's Embassy in Amman — reserves for itself the full right to adopt the necessary measures toward this premeditated matter. It also reserves for itself all the rights accrued from the damage inflicted on the embassy and its contents. It holds the Libyan Government fully responsible for the safety and security of our ambassador, our embassy staff, and their families and houses in Tripoli.

The Government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, while holding the Government of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah fully responsible for the incident and its consequences, presents the following evidence as a basis for this condemnation:

1. The official Libyan state television on the evening of Thursday, 16 February, broadcast an appeal calling on what it termed the Palestinian factions in Libya to assemble in the capital's Green Square on Saturday, 18 February 1984, at 0900 — that is, the day of the criminal incident and a short time before it was perpetrated.

2. Libyan security men were deployed at the entrances of the streets leading to the embassy, on the embassy street, and around the embassy building on the morning of the incident. When the embassy asked the reason for their presence, they said that a march would pass by the embassy and that they had come to guard it.

3. This ministry summoned the Libyan charge d'affaires in Amman at 1800 on the day of the incident, 6 hours after it had taken place. He was given a verbal protest against the incident. He was surprised that the incident had occurred and denied any knowledge of it. He added that he would contact the Foreign Ministry to inquire about it.

Accordingly, the Government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan states the following:

1. The official libyan state television's call for this demonstration 2 days before it occurred is a premeditated act against our embassy.

2. The presence of Libyan security men at the scene of the inclident and their saying that they had come to guard it against a march that would pass by the embassy clearly indicate a specific plan aimed at the embassy.

3. The lack of knowledge of the incident by the Libyan charge d'affaires in Amman is evidence of the premeditated intention of the Libyan Government, which could have informed its embassy in Amman of what had taken place in the embassy and which could have expressed the well known diplomatic regret in such cases.

4. The Libyan Government could have prevented this incident if it had good will.

The Government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan stresses that its embassy was under the protection of the Libyan Government, and that this government was supposed to adopt all approriate measures to prevent the storming of the mission building or any damage being inflicted on it, and to prevent the undermining of the security and dignity of the mission. This is a matter which the Government of Jordan is fully observing vis-a-vis the Jamahiriyah Embassy in Amman.

The Council of Ministers fully reviewed this situation yesterday evening. A final decision and stand toward the incident and toward Jordanian-Libyan relations was postponed until our ambassador arrives tomorrow and until the information is complete.

On this occasion, I wish to indicate to the brother senators that, from the government's viewpoint, it is time to radically reassess Jordan's relations with Libya. This should be done by considering all of the practices that conflict with international norms, Arab fraternity, and international charters which the Government of the Libyan Jamahiriyah has carried out against Jordan on several occasions; by considering the official stands expressed by Libyan officials, from Colonel al-Qadhdhafi to the paramilitaries who participated in looting the Jordanian Embassy in Libya, in addition to all of the propaganda campaigns that we hear daily from the Libyan radio and television; and by considering the official and responsible Jordanian stand toward bilateral relations and Arab attutudes in all previous circumstances, and in the Arab and Islamic summit conferences. In this regard, we recall the odd stand recently adopted by the Libyan Government's representative at the ICO summit in Morocco — although an appropriate reply to this stand was made on the same day, as I recall.

The decision the Jordanian Government will adopt toward these relations will conform with the importance and delicacy of the situation. It will be made by accurately assessing this relationship, with all its positive and negative aspects, and by taking into consideration Jordan's security both here and abroad as well as the dignity and security of this country and its citizens, as I said at the beginning.

I would like to say that the measures adopted so far regarding the incident do not require us to hold further contacts on the level of the Arab League and other bodies until the picture is clear. This decision will be in the interest of Jordan and its people, as well as in the interest of security both inside and outside Jordan. Subsequently, it will not be an emotional decision. It will be a responsible, positive decision in all circumstances. Thank you.

Senate Issues Resolution

JN201721 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 20 Feb 84

["Text" of Senate resolution issued on 20 February 1984]

[Text] The Jordanian Senate, which was shocked by the sinful, deliberate aggression against the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan's Embassy in the Libyan capital, discussed this serious issue during its session this morning. A number of members expressed their indignation and resentment toward this despicable incident. At the request of the Senate, the prime minister gave full details of the incident — the aggression against the ambassador and the embassy staff, building, and contents; and the Libyan authorities' mean actions that violate international law and diplomatic norms, contradict the basic principles of human relations and character, and conflict with Islamic and Arab values.

The prime minister explained the government's measures and contacts concerning this criminal incident. In light of this information, in accordance with the spirit of responsibility as well as national and pan-Arab sentiments, and on the basis of concern for the honor of the Jordanian homeland and the safety of its citizens, the Senate has decided the following:

1. To condemn this premeditated criminal incident and to hold the Libyan Government fully responsible for the incident and its consequences;

2. To express the Senate's denunciation of and indignation over the Libyan authorities' action;

3. To support the Jordanian Government in its responsible behavior toward the incident and in the measures and arrangements that it will take in this regard;

4. To inform Arab and international bodies of the Senate's decision.

19 Feb Press Comment

JN191125 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 19 Feb 84

[Press review]

[Text] In their editorials today, Jordanian papers deal with yesterday's criminal attack against the Jordanian Embassy in Tripoli, an attack that violates all norms and laws as well as Arab character and manners.

Under the headline "Libya Occupies Embassy," *SAWT ASH-SHA'B* says: As much as the treacherous aggression against our embassy in Tripoli saddens us, we are even more saddened that the Libyan authorities themselves are the perpetrators of this premeditated aggression against the Jordanian Embassy and its employees in Libya. The aggression in itself has political indications that reveal the low level to which the ruling mentality in Tripoli has sunk. Two days before the aggression, the Libyan authorities called upon elements to gather in the square near the Jordanian Embassy. They then instigated their agents to storm the embassy and burn it, under the guardianship and supervision of Libyan security men, while the embassy employees were inside.

SAWT ASH-SHA'B adds: Whatever reasons and justifications the Libyan authorities give for this wicked aggression, they will not be able to hide their clear connivance against an Arab embassy, which should be protected from any harm in accordance with the most fundamental international laws, norms, and political manners. The Jordanian Embassy incident reflects not only the anarchist trend lead by the regime in Libya but also the tendency toward destruction and ruination that the regime shows in order to make the Arab homeland an arena for this destruction and ruination.

SAWT ASH-SHA'B says: We do not know what gives the Libyan regime the right to intervene in the affairs of Arab

countries and the right to practice violence, terrorism, and conspiracy in the Arab homeland. It plots against Egypt, then against Sudan; one time it sends its forces to invade Tunis, another time it intervenes in the affairs of Arab Morocco and Algeria. Its leaders do not hesitate to plot against the people of Iraq while plotting against the Palestinian people and working to split the Palestinian fold and destroy the PLO. Neither Saudi Arabia nor Jordan have been spared the plots of Libyan authorities. While the Libyan regime is directing an organized campaign of terror and conspiracy against the Arab countries, Libya faces the Arab world with its policy of continued abandonment of pan-Arab obligations and obvious shirking of its commitments to Arab action.

SAWT ASH-SHA'B concludes: The Jordanian Embassy incident in Tripoli is only one manifestation of this policy that has had a part, with other similar policies, in destroying the bridges of Arab action and in planting doubts and suspicions in the Arab arena. This has brought the Arabs to their present situation of weakness and dismemberment. Jordan will neither be affected nor deterred by the fact that a state plots against the duties of respect and manners required by diplomatic norms and Arab ties, because this incident and others like it are symptoms of what some Arab policies suffer from — immaturity, loss of manners, and unparalleled bankruptcy.

Under the headline "The Bankrupt," *AR-RA'Y* says: The treacherous attack on our embassy in Tripoli certifies the moral and political bankruptcy of the Libyan Government. This bankruptcy, which is expressed by the aggression, is the sad result of an absence of commitment to Arab character and international norms in the official Libyan arena. There is no doubt that the brother Libyan people are too pure and generous to carry out a cheap action such as the one that was directed against our embassy and diplomats there, not to mention the damage to Libya itself. What happened is an official attack, planned and carried out by the Libyan Government through its specialized organs of oppression and terror.

In light of this, we say that the echo of this crime will always haunt the Libyan Government alone, and it has to face the consequences. We must reiterate that Jordan's commitment to its pan-Arab stand and its responsibilities to the fateful cause cannot possibly waiver or deviate, whatever the criminal actions of the deviates. It is really sad that the Libyan Government's actions descend to the levels of organized crime, and that it substitutes its role that obliges it to protect the embassies it hosts, for another role that is not worthy of a government that respects itself and the responsibilities entailed by diplomatic norms and international law.

AR-RA'Y adds: Those who commit crimes against their citizens and recruit terrorists to hunt these citizens down and those who use their security organs to burn an Arab embassy that has immunity cannot by any standard be among those who defend the Arab cause. Defending it is an honor and can only be done by clean, honorable means to which the brave are committed. What a difference there is between bravery and crime!

AR-RA'Y concludes: This is why it is only fair to stress to the brother courageous Libyan people that Jordan, which understands their predicament, does not hold them in any way responsible for the aggression against the Jordanian Embassy in Tripoli. We also stress to this true Arab people that the crime the Libyan Government committed against our embassy there will not succeed in severing the ties between them and our true Arab Jordanian people. That government will not be able to isolate the two peoples from each other and will remain alone in facing its self-imposed pan-Arab, moral isolation.

Under the headline "The despicable Act," *AD-DUSTUR* says: The despicable act the Libyan authorities perpetrated agaisnt our embassy in Tripoli yesterday is shameful. This obvious aggression shows utter disregard for all the values of honor and Arabism and is a vile disavowal of all the principles and laws that govern relations between states.

When thought and action descend to the low level of burning embassies, assassinating diplomats, and other such disgusting actions, our citizen can only suppress his anger — not because of his inability, but because he refuses to sink to the level of replying to this despicable action. Our citizen mourns Arab manners and all the values of manhood and valor that were characteristic of every Arab action and were unique to this nation in every stand that it took toward both its friends and its enemies.

AD-DUSTUR adds: Jordan, which is prevented from answering these despicable acts because of its noble Arab manners, will not be affected by these despicable, childish acts that are deplored by correct Arab morals and chivalry. Yesterday's cowardly attack on the Jordanian Embassy in Tripoli will not weaken Jordan or shake its people's deep faith in both the ultimate defeat of those who have deviated from this nation and in the downfall of all who plot against it either from within or without. Such aggressions only deepen our disgust of those who produce rhetoric for Arabism day and night while acting to the detriment of this Arabism, which is ashamed of their despicable acts.

While we refrain from describing those who carried out the aggression against our embassy in Tripoli in the manner they deserve, and while we refrain from descending to their low level in not calling them the names they deserve, we are certain of the sentence the masses of our people and nation will carry out against this misled handful of people. We are very sure that such despicable acts will make us more aware of and firm about justice. They will also steer us further toward adhering, with all that is dear and precious, to our wise leadership in the foremost and to our deep belief in the unity of this people, their ascendance above lowliness, and their continued march on the road that was paved by blood and immortalized by life.

AR-RA'Y Writer Urges Retaliation

JN191311 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 19 Feb 84 p 24

[Tariq Masarwah article in "Everyday" column: "The Equivalent Weapon"]

[Excerpts] Burning down of our embassy in Libya in such an official manner and, before that, shooting our ambassadors and representatives in three capitals are issues that must be firmly and earnestly tackled.

If the Libyan Government cannot guarantee the security and safety of our representatives in the Libyan capital, then there is no need for a Jordanian Embassy in Tripoli and a Libyan Embassy in Amman. Neither is there any need for diplomatic relations from A to Z.

If an Arab capital concerns itself with the assassination of Jordanian ambassadors or connives with certain groups which concern themselves with the assassination of Jordanian ambassadors, then the ambassadors of that capital must not be safe from assassination. If Jordanians are prevented by their ethics from specializing in this "contemporary profession" in our beloved Arab homeland, mercenary killers can be found and paid to carry out the assassination.

There is something in this world called "the equivalent weapon." There is also in this world something called countering "vandalism" with harsher vandalism" in order to attain something called respect. Jordan must not allow the shooting of its sons to go unpunished.

JORDAN TIMES Editorial
JN200735 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 20 Feb 84 p 4

[Editorial: "Not a Matter of Choice"]

[Text] We really feel that there is no need for Jordan to maintain diplomatic relations with the Libyan regime after all that has happened to our embassy in Tripoli. With the burning of the Jordanian Embassy building there on Saturday, the Libyans have explicitly displayed their hostility towards Jordan and its people, and we believe that the time has come to reciprocate by considering the closure of the Libyan mission in Amman, and also take other necessary measures that we see fit for safeguarding our diplomats in other countries.

The Libyans have had the intention to perpetrate other crimes against Jordan, among other Arab countries, according to their former ambassador in Amman. And there is no doubt that they have, directly or indirectly, blessed assassination attempts on our diplomats in Rome, Spain, India and other parts of the world.

Saturday's despicable act against our mission in Tripoli was a criminal action directed against the Jordanian Government and people, and whatever pretexts and excuses the Libyan regime might have tried to come up with, it could never absolve itself of the responsibility for the attack.

We are indeed saddened to see Arabs at the threats of one another instead of directing their weapons and energies against the common enemy, and we are indeed appalled to see an Arab regime degrading itself to the level of common criminals in either recruiting or training or blessing terrorist squads to carry out criminal actions to serve their masters' selfish interests.

The arson in Tripoli was designed to deepen Arab differences and cause further splits in Arab ranks. Nevertheless, Jordan will not be shaken by such dastardly actions and it will not abandon its national commitments, no matter what the costs are.

Severing diplomatic ties with the Libyan regime is a step that has to be considered seriously in view of the rising situation, and isolating the Libyan regime is another measure that we can strive for to safeguard the interests of this country and its people.

How else does one deal with fanatics?

21 Feb AD-DUSTUR Comment
JN210743 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 21 Feb 84

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The Double Crime," *AD-DUSTUR* says: In light of this premeditated act which constitutes a link in a long series of Libyan acts that contradict the most elementary international laws and the principles of Arab and Islamic brotherhood, it has become necessary to reassess Jordan's relations with Libya in a manner that would prevent a repetition of such a shocking act and guarantee the dignity of the people and the state and the safety of our ambassadors and representatives abroad. It is no longer acceptable or possible for our mission to be exposed to any attempt against the lives of its personnel in addition to the attack on our embassy's security, safety, and contents and the violation of all laws and norms without taking proper action to safeguard our country's pride and dignity.

AD-DUSTUR adds: Although we are confident that while collecting all the required information, the government, inspired by our supreme leadership, will take the wise and proper decision, we would like to stress that we are fed up with the propaganda and actions by the Libyan authorities, who have spared no effort to harm Jordan, sometimes in the name of Arabism, which is innocent of all the acts of those authorities, and sometimes in the name of empty slogans that no longer can deceive anyone. The Libyan authorities' premeditated action last Saturday was a double crime, first against the Jordanian people through the attack on our embassy, flag, and diplomatic mission, and second against the Palestinian people who, in addition to all the dangers and calls on them to commit suicide, the Libyan authorities sought to involve in this hideous action through a known group used by these authorities as a cover to commit many crimes here and there against this or that Arab country.

AD-DUSTUR concludes: Once again, while expressing our confidence that any decision the government will make will eventually be in the interest of Jordan's security, the safety of its sons, and the dignity of its people, we would like to stress that we will continue to respect and love the fraternal Libyan people out of our full awareness that they are harmed like us by these childish actions and their perpetrators who ignore all commitments, pledges, and Arab and Islamic brotherhood.

King Husayn, Queen Nur Return Home 19 Feb

JN191954 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 19 Feb 84

[Excerpt] Their Majesties King Husayn and Queen Nur returned to the homeland today after a private visit to the United States, where his majesty underwent medical checkups which show that he enjoys sound health.

His majesty also responded to U.S. President Ronald Reagan's invitation to visit Washington, where his majesty met the President and participated in a tripartite meeting among his majesty, President Reagan, and President Husni Mubarak. During this meeting, King Husayn stressed that the Palestine question is the central issue in the Middle East. He also stressed the importance of finding a just, lasting, and honorable solution to that question.

His majesty also made a private visit to the United Kingdom, during which he met with British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and discussed developments in the Middle East situation.

King Husayn Receives Congressmen 20 Feb

JN201952 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 20 Feb 84

[Text] Amman — His Majesty King Husayn received at the Royal Hashemite Court this afternoon Senator John Tower, chairman of the Armed Servces Senate Committee, and U.S. Representative John McCain. During the meeting, his majesty reviewed the Jordanian stand on the current peace efforts in the region. He asserted that Jordan's principles for achieving peace are based on nonacquisition of land by war and force, as stipulated in UN Resolutions 242 and 338; on the need to achieve complete peace in exchange for comprehensive withdrawal; and on guaranteeing the Palestinians self-determination on their national soil. Marwan al-Qasim, chief of the Royal Court, and the U.S. ambassador in Amman attended the meeting. Tower and McCain arrived in Amman today on 2-day official visit to Jordan.

SAWT ASH-SHA'B Says 'Arafat Expected 21 Feb

JN200812 Amman SAWT ASH-SHA'B in Arabic 20 Feb 84 p 1

[Text] Amman, *SAWT ASH-SHA'B* — The final date of PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat's visit to Jordan is still unknown, but it is reported that he will arrive in Amman tomorrow, Tuesday. 'Arafat had been scheduled to arrive in Amman on Saturday, 18 February, but the visit was postponed. Khalil al-Wazir, alias Abu Jihad, deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, was also scheduled to arrive in Amman yesterday, Sunday, but his arrival was also postponed. He is expected to arrive here today in order to resume his contacts with Jordanian officials on the latest developments in the Arab arena, including the Palestinian arena. He will also discuss with Jordanian officials topics related to the Jordanian-Palestinian committee in charge of West Bank affairs.

AR-RA'Y: PRC Premier To Visit Jordan 9 March

JN180734 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 18 Feb 84 p 1

[Text] Amman — *AR-RA'Y* has learned that the PRC premier will arrive in Amman on 9 March on a visit to Jordan that will last several days.

Mitterrand To Make Visit During February

JN180808 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 18 Feb 84 p 1

[Text] Amman — *AR-RA'Y* — It has been learned that French President Francois Mitterrand will visit Jordan before the end of the month to hold talks with Jordanian officials on regional issues and the Eruopean role in finding solutions that will establish peace in the region.

House of Representatives Member Dies 17 Feb

JN172124 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 17 Feb 84

[Text] With deep sorrow, the prime minister announced today the death of House of Representatives member Emil al-Ghuri, who died this morning. The speaker of the House of Representatives also announced the death of the late representative of the Jerusalem area. The late member, a former minister, died while he was a member of the House of Representatives. He will be buried at 1500 tomorrow, Saturday.

May God cover him with his grace. From God we come and to Him we return.

Al-Jumayyil Accepts Eight-Point Proposal
NC171934 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in English 1746 GMT 17 Feb 84

[News conference given by President Amin al-Jumayyil to foreign journalists at the Presidential Palace on 17 February; questioners not identified — recorded]

[Text] [Al-Jumayyil] If I have to choose between the [17 May] agreement and the national unity, for sure, I shall choose the national unity. This plan — the King Fahd's plan — is a new proposal and through those proposals, we could go beyond the agreement of 17 May and reach a new package which would ensure the withdrawal of foreign forces from our country. That is our main objective, or goal, in the beginning [words indistinct]. The withdrawal of the foreign forces are the main objectives of my government. Through the King Fahd's plan, we will be able to reach this goal and also to reach a new government, which should be a broad-based government to lead to a national reconciliation and the real unity of the country.

[Question] Mr President, what sort of cooperation do you expect from the Syrians if the Israelis [words indistinc] remain in southern Lebanon? Should the May 17 accord be abrogated [words indistinct]?

[Al-Jumayyil] We are expecting through this plan a new era. We are ready, we are — we hope that we could reach best relations with our neighbors and brothers, the Syrians. Everybody who lives in Lebanon would like to reach a new era between us, between Lebanon and Syria. The King Fahd plan could succeed in restoring the best relations between those two camps.

[Question] Mr President, you have made the abrogation of the May 17 agreement conditional on the prior [words indistinct] acceptance of the entire eight-point package. Do you think your Lebanese opponents will be satisfied with this condition?

[Al-Jumayyil] Yes, because we are not abrogating the accord through the King Fahd plan but a package which should lead to total and balanced withdrawal of all foreign forces in the country. For that, I am sure that everybody will be happy, will be satisfied, if this plan could lead to those goals and be accepted.

[Question] Is this plan to resolve the deteriorating military position in the country today in the Lebanese Army?

[Al-Jumayyil] (?You know our problems) began before the Lebanese war — began in 1975 — and that is the ninth year of this war. We had many problems even before and [word indistinct], destruction, fighting, and military action, et cetera. This proves this [word indistinct] is not new. We had many other plans. We had many other initiatives in the past. This one could be, maybe, the last one and could help us in the unification of the country — to reach the reunification of the country and to have a broad-based government to be able to rebuild the national unity, to rebuild the entire nation.

[Question] Mr President, could you tell us honestly how optimistic you are?

[Al-Jumayyil] I am always optimistic, my dear friend. [Al-Jumayyil laughs]

[Question] Can you really....

[Al-Jumayyil, interrupting] I always succeed. Be sure that we will succeed because the people — the Lebanese people — want to succeed and the Lebanese (?love) the unity of the country. They want to rebuild a beautiful Lebanon. They want to rebuild a unified Lebanon, and the people — everybody knows very well that the destruction of Lebanon could be a disaster not only for the Lebanese themselves, for all the communities and parties, but also for the peace in the Middle East and in the world.

[Question] Are you satisfied with the United States after this [word indistinct] diplomatically and militarily?

[Al-Jumayyil] We have good relations with the United States. Maybe we had many difficulties altogether, but we [word indistinct] — I am sure that we with our relationship we will be able to succeed and to bring again peace, sovereignty, security, independence, and unity to Lebanon.

[Question] Even if the Marines leave or [words indistinct]?

[Al-Jumayyil] I said a few days ago that the naval actions are not the best way to reach our goal. I believe that the political initiative will be able to succeed in Lebanon.

[Question indistinct]

[Al-Jumayyil] I would really (?prefer) the answer from King Fahd [words indistinct]

[Question indistinct]

[Al-Jumayyil] [Passage indistinct] withdrawal of foreign forces from our country [words indistinct] this country is ours. The Lebanese would like to live in peace, security, and united in this country. [Words indistinct] we might have (?security) problems, military problems within the Lebanese society and confessions, but everybody also would like to reach agreement, [word indistinct] toward the unity of the country, the sovereignty, and independence.

[question] How many indications have you received thus far from the Druze at all insofar as [words indistinct]?

[Al-Jumayyil] [Words indistinct] and these will have to be [words indistinct].

[indistinct question and answer]

[Question] Are you optimistic?

[Al-Jumayyil] Always, my dear friend. Always optimistic.

[Question] Thank you, President al-Jumayyil.

Discusses Saudi Plan

NC172012 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1910 GMT 17 Feb 84

[Text] In an interview with French television Channel 1, President Amin al-Jumayyil explained the reasons that prompted him to approve the Saudi plan. President al-Jumayyil discussed relations with France and his aspirations in the next stage in the following dialogue:

Question: What preconditions allowed you to accept the Saudi plan, which includes abrogation of the 17 May agreement?

Answer: I said and I reiterate that the main thing is the departure of all foreign forces from Lebanon. This is the goal I have been seeking since I assumed the presidency. We signed the 17 May agreement with Israel. This agreement is now in an impasse. This is not the first time I have said this. What we are seeking now is an exit from this impasse. The Saudi proposals go beyond the 17 May agreement and its abrogation. They are a new momentum, whose purpose is the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon. They are practical and sound proposals that might lead to a final solution to the Lebanese crisis and help us do the following:

1. Restore the homeland's unity. We are resolutely determined to go all the way to restore the homeland's cohesion, which was destroyed by a war lasting several years — a bloody war in which forces beyond our national capacities have participated.

2. Withdraw the foreign forces and immediately start a process of reforms on the national level which would enable to establish the Lebanese policy and entity on a firm and strong foundation and which would spare the country and bloody turmoil.

Question: Don't you fear that Israel might very simply annex southern Lebanon?

Answer: There is an occupation and it is a fait accompli; not only the south, but a large part of our territory has been under occupation for a long time. Therefore, I hope through the Saudi plan and with U.S. support to reach a solution that would enable us to avert the danger.

Question: President Mitterrand has recently declared that the Lebanese regime is threatened. He praised the Amal Movement. Honnecker met with Walid Junblatt. Do you feel that the French Government has withdrawn its support for your government?

Answer: First of all, President Mitterrand is a friend. I believe he was confused before the French television camera. I am in constant touch with him. The relations between Lebanon and France go beyond the personal scope to relations that have been consolidated by experience. I can always depend on France's support. I know this. I can depend on the support of President Mitterrand himself. I know this as well. Cooperation with France will continue.

Regarding French relations with the opposition, Paris has always established very amicable relations with all parties concerned with the conflict. This can only help me to reunite the homeland. Instead of giving a negative interpretation to this initiative, we can, on the contrary, interpret it positively. President Mitterrand can play a role in helping us reunite the country. I am determined that Lebnaon will become united again. It will be united. The Lebanese fully realize that they have no hope of existing if there is no national unity; otherwise, chaos will prevail. Everybody realizes this and I hope this objective will be realized with the help of all Lebanon's friends.

Question: Nabih Birri and Walid Junblatt again demanded your resignation today. Do you believe this is a personal threat?

Answer: Individuals are not important at this stage. The president is not important. What is important are the institutions. I am here to defend the institutions. We have a democratic system and each person has the right to express his opinion. What is important to me is safeguarding the institutions, homeland, and unity.

President al-Jumayyil emphasized that the people support him despite all what is being said here and there. He added: I will continue to discharge my duty to serve Lebanon, which is in solidarity with the Arab environment. We have strong hopes of reaching practical solutions that would help save Lebanon's institutions, independence, and sovereignty.

Question: If the opposition decides to continue its campaign, will the Christians be able to continue to bear arms and defend themselves?

Answer: Arms will never solve the Lebanese problem. We have been living in this whirlpool for 10 years. For those who believe that Al-Jumayyil is the obstacle, I say that the two presidents who preceded me faced the same difficulties. Therefore, it is not the president but the institutions which are the target. Unfortunately, they do not seek to replace them by other institutions but by a state of chaos. The important thing, as I said before, is national cohesion. There are opposing voices and there is an opposition. It has every right to express its views. However, arms will not solve the problem in Lebanon and they are not the way to reach a solution. Arms are meant for legitimate self-defense.

In conclusion, President al-Jumayyil said: There will be no victor or vanquished in Lebanon. The only victor is the homeland and the only vanquished are the differences among the parties.

Further Remarks

NC182200 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 18 Feb 84

[Text] President Amin al-Jumayyil held a press conference at B'abda Palace today. The conference was attended by press doyen Muhammad al-Ba'labakki and the chief [editors] of the local newspapers. During the conference, the president dealt with the current situation in Lebanon. President al-Jumayyil said:

[Begin recording] Today, all the country is dying. The country is at a crossroads. The homeland is the subject of discussion. This is regrettable. We are doing everything in our power and we are open to any solution, as I said in my address on television. We

are open to everything. There is nothing more sacred than the homeland [words indistinct] the rights of the communities and the rights of the homeland. The rights of the homeland are above everything else. There is no doubt that during the recent phase, some persons have been making observations and criticisms. All of these things can be (?discussed). However, the price of all this should not be the ruination or elimination of the homeland. I mean that it is a crime for the homeland as a whole to pay the price for certain mistakes — the price being the elimination of the homeland. These are the drawbacks and the fears that we are (?living through).

Some issues are being raised. As I have said, there is nothing sacred, but there is (?legislation) [words indistinct] which I believe have been surpassed by time. Nothing is sacred. All these things were supposed to be submitted to the Chamber of Deputies in a logical and constitutional manner. Therefore, there are other issues that are being submitted for discussion. These issues are not at all sacred.

We have admitted [what has happened] regarding the subject of the suburb [kunna sallaman fi mawdu' ad-dahiyah]. We know how the battle started in the suburb. The Army positions were stormed and the Army was forced to defend itsself. If certain excesses occurred, the government will investigate these excesses. If improper practices have been committed by any party, such matters should be dealt with. Every person who has gone beyond his powers, beyond logic, or beyond the rights should be punished. All these matters are open for discussion. However, there is something that is more important than these matters: the salvation of the homeland. Lebanon is dying. We are today in a fateful phase in every sense of the word. The matter at hand transcends the person of the president, whoever the president is. It is the homeland itself that is the subject of discussion.

I believe that the press has a crucial responsibility to enlighten the citizens, enlighten the leaders, and enlighten all sides, even officials, because we may also need the help of the press [word indistinct]. I rely on you so that we can adopt a historical stand. Only we can save ourselves. Only our solidarity and our unity can save us. We should overcome everything. Through you, (?we appeal) to all the leaderships, whoever they may be, to forget everything and to cease fire immediately, and without there being a solution. [as heard] [Words indistinct] we will go back and submit all the Lebanese problems for discussion. No one can dominate another and no one can triumph over another. Any victory by anyone over another is a victory over Lebanon, and any sound approach toward this subject — all the demands — will be a victory for Lebanon.

Let us strive for Lebanon's victory. Lebanon's victory can be achieved only through the unity of the Lebanese. As for the rest, [words indistinct] a time will come for submitting them for discussion — reforms, constitutional reforms, and national considerations. As soon as we sit around the table, there is no doubt that we can achieve results. This is my urgent appeal to you. [Words indistinct] the foreign minister will give you all the facts which [words indistinct]. I am at yoru disposal at any moment to provide you with all the facts. Let us remain in touch because the responsibility is not mine alone. I am here today; I will not be here tomorrow, but Lebanon (?will remain). [end recording]

Salim Enumerates Eight Points for Newsmen

NC171945 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 17 Feb 84

[Text] At a news conference he held this afternoon at the Presidential Palace, Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim announced the eight points of the new Saudi plan that Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal will be discussing with Syrian officials in Damascus this evening. The points of the plan are:

1. Implementing the security plan previously agreed upon.

2. Abrogating the 17 May agreement.

3. Adopting security arrangements in the south guaranteeing an Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon.

Minister Salim said this means that Lebanon knows that Israel will not withdraw from its territory if it does not agree on security arrangements guaranteeing the security of its northern borders.

4. Agreeing on internal reforms.

Minister Salim said this ubject will be discussed in Geneva.

5. Agreeing with Syria to withdraw its forces from Lebanon.

Minister Salim explained that this topic is important and indicates that Lebanon, while abrogating the 17 May agreement, is working to reach security arrangements that would be acceptable to Israel. He said Lebanon also accepts the principle of the need for an agreement with Syria to withdraw all its forces from Lebanon. This is a balanced proposal that answers the needs of the parties concerned.

6. Adopting the principle of the simultaneous withdrawal of all non-Lebanese forces from Lebanon.

Here, Minister Salim said: The non-Lebanese forces must agree to withdraw 3 months after an agreement is reached with Israel to withdraw its forces on the basis of the security arrangements it agrees on. Minister Salim explained that all the withdrawals of all non-Lebanese forces from Lebanon will take place simultaneously, except for the withdrawal of the UN forces in the south and of all the UN forces that Lebanon had asked for.

7. Considering the points of the plan an integrated whole; it is not possible to accept a point and reject another — either all the Saudi plan is accepted or all of it is rejected. Syria will be committed to implementing the parts pertaining to it in the agreement and will be committed to helping to implement all the other points of the agreement. Moreover, Saudi Arabia will also be committed to helping implement the plan.

8. Forming a government of national unity to implement this plan. The government will include all the leaders who support or oppose the regime. The government must also include the leaders of the National Salvation Front and the Amal Movement leader or his representative.

Minister Salim explained that the versions of the Saudi plan that were published in the newspapers today were not the correct versions. He emphasized that the most important part of the plan is that is transcends the 17 May agreement to form an executive means within whose framework withdrawals could be guaranteed and the sovereignty, unity, and independence of Lebanon restored.

Hamadah Notes Significance of Damascus Meetings

NC201842 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 20 Feb 84

[Excerpt] Former Minister Narwan Hamadah returned to Beirut today from Damascus after participating in the series of meetings held by the Lebanese opposition in the Syrian capital. Hamadah stated after his return that these meetings strengthened the cohesion between the National Salvation Front and the Amal Movement. They provided an opportunity to discuss all the developments and to reach full and detailed agreement on each subject. This will be translated in the coming days into measures and positions to safeguard the national issue and the Lebanese citizen.

Salim Returns From U.S. at Al-Jumayyil Request

NC201721 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 20 Feb 84

[Text] Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim returned unexpectedly to Beirut today. It has been learned that President Amin al-Jumayyil recalled Minister Salim. Minister Salim left yesterday for Washington and New York. The reasons for recalling the foreign minister are not known. The foreign minister was scheduled to participate in the consultations at the United Nations prior to the Security Council meeting tomorrow.

Franjiyah Meets With Salim in Zgharta 21 Feb

NC211150 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic 1130 GMT 21 Feb 84

[Text] Former President Sulayman Franjiyah received at his palace in Zgharta at midday Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim, who was accompanied by Presidential Adviser Muhammad Shuqayr. Deputy 'Abdallah ar-Rasi attended the meeting, which is still in progress.

Al-Hariri Briefs Al-Jumayyil on Damascus Talks

NC201914 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 20 Feb 84

[Text] President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil this evening met with Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim and Saudi mediator Rafiq al-Hariri. President al-Jumayyil was briefed by Al-Hariri on the results of Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal's talks in Damascus.

Leaves for Damascus 20 Feb

NC202134 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 20 Feb 84

[Text] The meeting which President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil held with Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim and Saudi Mediator Rafiq al-Hariri ended at 2045 today. Al-Hariri briefed President al-Jumayyil on the results of Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal's talks in Damascus last week.

Al-Hariri left Beirut for Damascus to join the delegation which is accompanying Saudi Crown Prince 'Abdallah on his visit to Syria. The delegation also includes Prince Bandar ibn Sultan, the Saudi ambassador in Washington.

VOL Outlines New Saudi Four-Point Plan

NC210658 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 21 Feb 84

[Text] President Amin al-Jumayyil has met with Saudi mediator Rafiq al-Hariri in the presence of Foreign Minister Elie Salim. The meeting dealt with the new Saudi proposals to end the Lebanese crisis.

It was learned that the new Saudi plan consists of four points, which are: 1) canceling the 17 May agreement in return for freezing the security situation; 2) dealing in different ways with the Israeli occupation and the Syrian military presence in Lebanon; 3) referring the question of the Syrian military presence in Lebanon to the Arab League; 4) resuming the national dialogue in Geneva and forming a government of national unity that will seek to achieve balance among the communities.

Birri Meets Franjiyah, Makes Statement 20 Feb

NC201754 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic 1530 GMT 20 Feb 84

[Text] [Former] President Sulayman Franjiyah met with Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri in Zgharta this afternoon. During the meeting, they reviewed current developments in the Lebanese arena from all security and political angles.

Following the meeting, Birri made the following statement:

[Begin recording] [Birri] [Word indistinct] to speak about the specific (?details) of the meeting between His Excellency President Franjiyah and myself. It must be noted that my visit to Franjiyah represents a return to the roots, to unified Lebanon. When you visit Franjiyah you feel completely at home. This is the way Lebanon used to be. It is because of this struggler [words indistinct].

What I said is not meant as an introduction but is meant to express my feelings and the feelings of all the Lebanese. I had to meet Franjiyah to keep him briefed on what has taken place. This was a necessary step following the incidents that took place in West Beirut and the southern suburb and following my visit to fraternal Syria and my meeting with His Excellency President al-Asad.

I reviewed with Franjiyah at length the political and security situation in West Beirut and the claims that West Beirut is being handed over to one faction in exclusion of the other factions. From Zgharta and from this respectable house, I reassure you that West Beirut — like any other part of Lebanon — pertains to all the Lebanese whether they are Christians or Muslims. I beseech all the Christians to remember that wherever they are in Lebanon — in West Beirut, Al-Biqa', or elsewhere — they are in noble Lebanon. Nobody is to gain any advantage at the expense of anybody except inasmuch as he is dedicated to this country.

Occasionally, I hear talk about evacuation and the attempts to evacuate people. Those who do evacuate are those who act out of [words indistinct] and who are trying to dominate Lebanon and impose certain things on Lebanon. The rest of the Lebanese, all the factions, belong to Lebanon and Lebanon belongs to them.

[Unidentified reporter] The media have shown particular interest in your visit to Damascus and your continuous meetings. Can you brief us on what took place in these meetings and whether there are certain resolutions [word indistinct]?

[Birri] As a matter of fact, there was a discussion of what was called the Saudi plan. This plan is neither Saudi nor Lebanese. There was also a lengthy discussion of what is called the eight points. Our opinion was already known before I went to Damascus. This plan is a miniature 17 May agreement. We are still fumbling about this agreement, which has uprooted Lebanon from its Arab presence and orientation to replace it with an Israeli orientation. The government and President al-Jumayyil in particular have not so far shown any intent to terminate this agreement. In my opinion, their maneuvers in this regard will not succeed.

[Reporter] How do you view the situation in Lebanon after the military and political developments which took place last week?

[Birri] We are at a serious crossroad. In fact, Lebanon is now facing extremely difficult and delicate decisions. Nevertheless, I am always willing to keep my optimism, which stems from the Lebanese steadfastness we have known for years. This optimism does not prevent me from seeing matters objectively. We are facing a serious crossroads, and there are hazards menacing the institutions and the land. The Israelis are moving at will south of Sidon, south of the Al-Awwali River, and north of the Al-Awwali. So far, we have not brought the government to see that the 17 May agreement is a cause of real tribulation and that we have to cooperate in order to get rid of this agreement to save Lebanon.

[Reporter] Is there a harmony of opinion between the National Salvation Front and the Amal Movement?

[Birri] Such harmony exists. However, some standpoints are independent — particularly regarding certain inclinations to escalate matters. This represents a difference of opinion which is not [words indistinct]. However, over all the basic and essential matters there is unison of opinion. [end recording]

Syrians' Return to W. Beirut

NC202158 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 2145 GMT 20 Feb 84

[Text] Political and diplomatic sources have said that Junblatt, Birri, and Syrian officials have agreed to prepare the appropriate atmosphere in West Beirut for the return of Syrian forces in the form of deterrent forces.

In another development, military sources said that the socialist military command has given Palestinians who have been trained in terrorist operations in Cuba and some East European countries forged Lebanese identity cards.

Birri, Junblatt: Al-Jumayyil Must Resign

NC210743 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 0630 GMT 21 Feb 84

[Text] In reaction to the intransigence of the authority, which refuses to submit to the demands of the majority of the Lebanese people, Nabih Birri has stepped up his campaign against the shah of B'abda. After having asked him to resign to give another Maronite a chance to rescue Lebanon from the present situation, Birri yesterday demanded his resignation, affirming that in the event he refuses, he should be overthrown.

This came after a series of meetings in Damascus. Afterward, Walid Junblatt, leader of the Progressive Socialist Party [PSP], affirmed that the meetings centered on political and military coordination between the PSP and the Amal Movement to protect civilians in nationalist Beirut and the Palestinian refugees in the camps from any attack or aggression. Junblatt also affirmed that the question of the shah of B'abda had been discussed and that he renewed his demand for his resignation, for the abrogation of the 17 May agreement, and for the abolition of political sectarianism.

Sham'un Rejects Recent Syrian Proposals

NC211254 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 21 Feb 84

[Text] During the visit by [former] President Camille Sham'un, Abbot Nu'man, and Lawyer Abu Sulayman to Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil, agreement was reached on a unified action by the Christian leaderships to confront all aspects of the current conditions.

Sham'un strongly attacked the Syrian stance, the Syrian military presence, the continuous shelling of densely populated areas, and Syria's support for foreign Palestinian, Iranian, and Libyan elements. He stressed the need to choose a solution that will guarantee peace and stability for Lebanon, as well as the withdrawal of all armed forces from its territory. He called on the government not to accept the latest Syrian proposals, refusing to participate in any government or any conference that is held for this purpose.

Italian Contingent Departs for Home 20 Feb

NC201533 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 20 Feb 84

[Text] The Italian contingent of the Multinational Force ieft Beirut today on its way back to Italy, leaving behind 100 Italian soldiers on board an Italian naval vessel to guard the Italian Embassy in Beirut.

ANSA Report

AU201947 Rome ANSA in English 1931 GMT 20 Feb 84

[Excerpts](ANSA) Beirut, February 20 — The Italian troops in the multinational peacekeeping force in Beirut completed their withdrawal today qucikly and without ceremony as their commanding officer, General Franco Angioni, compared the 17 months of the Italian contingent's presence in Lebanon to the work of a physician who did everything possible to save the patient.

While the departure of the 1,400 troops begun yesterday was underway, there were no authorities present at the Beirut port to see off General Angioni and his men as they boarded the leased ferryboats *Appia* and *Tiepolo*.

On the ground will remain a company of Carabinieri national police paratroopers to guard the Italian embassy and other Italian installations and some three hundred marines of the San Marco battalion will stay on duty aboard the Caorle in Lebanese waters. The leadership of the Italians left behind was passed today to the Italian Navy command.

The headquarters of the Italian contingent and the field hospital were taken over at dawn by guerrillas of the Shi'ite Moslem Amal movement, bearded youths with machine guns strapped across their chests who moved into the guards' posts around the hospital donated by Italy to the Shi'ite superior council. The new director of the medical staff visited the facilities last night and took possession of the hospital today. Also left behind for distribution to the poor in the surrounding neighborhoods were food rations for 1,500 people for 50 days.

Speaking of the Italian contingent's mission of safeguarding the Palestinian refugee camps at Sabra and Shatila, the commanding officer said, "before leaving, we received assurances from the political leaders now controlling West Beirut that no massacres will be allowed. There is no longer the situaton which prevailed two years ago to provoke the slaughter at Sabra and Shatila", the general added with reference to the Phalange massacres in the areas under the direct control of Israeli occupation troops, the act which sparked the formation of the four-nationa MPF two years ago. "The climate is not so heated, people are tired and want to live in peace", he added.

To facilitate the withdrawal of the Italian troops, a hole was opened up in the green line, dividing the Christian and Moslem sectors of the capital, near the once-splendid pine forest reduced to a stand of charred skeletons by Israeli bombing runs in the summer of 1982.

The guerrillas controlling the Moslem sector warmly greeted the passing Italian columns but in the Christian Zone, less than a dozen Lebanese Army regulars and rightwing Phalange militiamen looked on in silence.

Army To Control Airport; Security Forces in Beirut

NC190631 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 19 Feb 84

[Text] Press reports attributed to opposition sources in Lebanon say that in the next few hours the Lebanese Army will take over control of Beirut International Airport and its access roads. The sources say that men of the 6th Brigade will be given the task of guarding ministries and embassies. They will have only light-caliber weapons while their heavy-caliber weapons will be kept in the barracks.

The Internal Security Forces have reinforced their deployment in West Beirut with armored patrols and have set up checkpoints. All unofficial gunmen disappeared from the west sector of Beirut.

Junblatt Rules Out Army Deployment in Beirut

NC201429 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1330 GMT 20 Feb 84

[Text] Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt and Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri held meetings in Damascus yesterday and today. Following these meetings, Junblatt announced that the Army must not be deployed in West Beirut to maintain security, while Nabih Birri hinted that some principles have been drawn up to enable the various parties to assume responsibility for security in Beirut. He pointed out that coordination exists with the Palestinians on current issues.

Birri arrived in northern Lebanon to meet with [former] President Franjiyah and [former] Prime Minister Karami. Former Ministers Marwan Hamadah and Khalid Junblatt arrived in Beirut to hold contacts. These contacts are scheduled to begin at 1600 today.

Israeli Patrol Crosses Ad-Damur Bridge 18 Feb

NC180925 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0915 GMT 18 Feb 84

[Text] The socialists have asked the Amal Movement and Palestinians to vacate the coastal line between Ad-Damur and Khaldah and not to intercept an Israeli armored patrol which crossed the Ad-Damur bridge a short while ago.

Further on Israeli Brigades

NC201943 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1915 GMT 20 Feb 84

[Text] Twelve Israeli vehicles reached the approaches to West Beirut this afternoon. Other vehicles crossed the Ash-Shuwayfat-Dayr Qubil road. Meanwhile, Israeli warships were spotted

roaming the coast opposite Al-Awza'i, Khaldah, and Radio Orient. Reports that the Israeli warships have bombarded Palestinian positions between 'Aramun and An-Na'imah have been dismissed by Israeli sources.

In another development, an armored Israeli brigade entered the Barja and Siblin areas, taking up positions in Tallat Zarut, Hasrut, and Batir. A second brigade headed toward Ad-Damur.

Force Withdraws From Al-Kharrub

NC211206 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1130 GMT 21 Feb 84

[Text] Our correspondent in Iqlim al-Kharrub reports that the Israeli motorized force which took up a position in the area of Shhim, Barja, and Siblin yesterday withdrew at noon today toward Wadi az-Zaynah and Al-Maghayriyah on its way to the occupied territory in the south.

Second Unit Crosses Jazzin

NC192234 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2200 GMT 19 Feb 84

[Text] Security sources said that an Israeli force crossed the Al-Awwali bridge and proceeded northward and reached Ad-Damur, where it stopped. These sources said that this force consists of 42 personnel carriers and 25 trucks loaded with ammunition, as well as a number of jeeps. These sources added that a similar Israeli force this evening crossed Jazzin to Basir.

Israeli Brigade Reinforced

NC211040 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1015 GMT 21 Feb 84

[Text] Following the four raids carried out by the Israeli planes at 1020 today on the positions of the Palestinians and their associates in 'Ayn al-Jadidah, Mansuriyat Bhamdun, and Bkhish-tay, fires are still being seen at the bombarded positions. At the same time, Israeli gunboats are being seen moving along the Ash-Shuf coast accompanied by flights of helicopter gunships. It is understood that these movements fall within the framework of reinforcing the Israeli brigade deployed between Al-Awwali and Ad-Damur with air, land, and sea combat units.

Israeli Patrols in Al-Kharrub

NC210736 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0715 GMT 21 Feb 84

[Text] Warplanes overflew Lebanon a short while ago on a new reconnaissance mission. At the same time the security situation is relatively calm on the traditional axes of Beirut and the mountain. Information received this morning from the Al-Kharrub region indicates that the Israeli forces have intensified their patrols in the area extending from the line of the Ad-Damur River to the Al-Awwali River, where armored units have been deployed since yesterday afternoon.

Amal Movement, Israelis Deny Landing Operation

NC201635 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1624 GMT 20 Feb 84

[Text] We have just received the following: A responsible security source in the Amal Movement has denied the tendentious rumors which were spread by some local and foreign private radios about an Israeli landing operation in the Al-Awza'i area and the Beirut airport and about warships' bombardment of the Bi'r Hasan area. The source says that these rumors are fabricated and only aim at causing confusion.

The Israeli liaison office in Ad-Dubayyah also denied to foreign correspondents that these reports are true.

Military Source Denies Israeli Advance to Khaldah

NC201646 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1639 GMT 20 Feb 84

[Text] We have just received the following report. An official military source in the 6th Brigade Command has denied reports that have been disseminated by some private radios about an Israeli military advance from Ad-Damur in the direction of Khaldah. The same source also denied reports of an Israeli landing in and bombardment of the Bi'r al-Hasan area.

Unidentified Warplanes Overfly Beirut 20-21 Feb

NC210618 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 21 Feb 84

[Excerpt] The security situation remained unchanged last night. Clashes continued in the mountain area, Iqlim al-Kharrub, and on the contact lines [in Beirut]. The worst were the clahses which occurred on the Suq al-Gharb axis.

Intermittent explosions and bursts of light- and medium-caliber machine gun fire continued to be heard until this morning on the contact lines in the commercial area and up to the Old Sidon Road.

Warplanes overflew Beirut at night. The unidentified warplanes resumed their flights early this morning.

Beirut Radio on Raids

NC211013 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 21 Feb 84

[Text] A security source reports that Israeli aircraft raided positions in Duhur 'Alayh and Mansuriyat Hamdun at 1045 today. The aircraft met ground resistance in the mountain area. The results of the raid are not known.

An Israeli military spokesman admitted this raid a short while ago.

Clashes intensified on the commercial area axes in Beirut. Intermittent bursts of gunfire continue to be heard on the other axes.

Planes Hit Palestinian Positions

NC210844 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0837 GMT 21 Feb 84

[Text] Our correspondent says that Israeli planes have so far carried out three raids: at 1019, 1024, and 1033. Israeli planes are now bombarding positions of the Palestinians and their allies in the areas of 'Ayn al-Jadidah and Mansuriyat Bhamdun.

Israeli Aircraft 'Confronted'

NC210848 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 0842 GMT 21 Feb 84

[Text] Israeli military aircraft are carrying out low-altitude flights over the mountain and Al-Biqa'. Air defense means [wasa'it ad-difa' al-jawwiyah] are confronting the aircraft.

VOAL Says Kidnapped Saudi Consul Repatriated

NC191546 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1537 GMT 19 Feb 84

[Text] The CENTRAL NEWS AGENCY has reported that Husayn al-Farrash, the Saudi consul general of the Saudi Embassy who was kidnapped about a month ago in Beirut, has returned to his country after being handed over to his government on the Lebanese-Syrian border.

Media Deny Knowledge of Release

JN192101 Manama WAKH in Arabic 2040 GMT 19 Feb 84

[Text] Beirut, 19 Feb (WAKH) — The official Lebanese media have denied any knowledge of the release of Husayn al-Farrash, the Saudi consul in Beirut who was kidnapped in West Beirut almost a month ago. In a statement to a WAKH correspondent, a responsible source at the Lebanese Information Ministry said that the ministry has no knowledge of this subject that was reported by the Lebanese CENTRAL NEWS AGENCY.

The Voice of Lebanon today cited the CENTRAL NEWS AGENCY as saying that the Saudi consul was released today [word indistinct] near the Lebanese border (?with Syria).

Amal Calls for 'Peaceful' Strike in South

NC172038 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 17 Feb 84

[Text] The Amal Movement leadership in the south held a special meeting tthis afternoon. During the meeting the leadership discussed the general situation in the south and the assassination of martyr Shaykh Raghib Harb. The leadership decided to call for a general strike in the south in response to the appeal by the Muslim ulema in denunciation of this sinister crime. The leadership asked the masses in the south to make their strike a peaceful one.

Beirut, Suburb Respond to Call

NC180911 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 0830 GMT 18 Feb 84

[Text] The south, Beirut, and its suburb responded to the call for a general strike today, denouncing the assassination of struggler Shaykh Raghib Harb. Businesses and establishments were closed and traffic came to a standstill.

A eulogy ceremony is now being held at the invitation of the Muslim ulema grouping at the Al-Huri Mosque at Beirut Arab University during which several ulema will speak. After the ceremony, a silent popular demonstration will be staged.

Al-Murabitun Arrests Intelligence Officer

NC180857 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 0830 GMT 18 Feb 84

[Text] The Revolutionary Security Committee of the Al-Murabitun forces reports the following:

On the night of 17-18 February, a unit of the Al-Murabitun forces' security committee deployed in the Ra's an-Nab', Muhammad al-Hut, Bisharah al-Khuri, and 'Umar ibn al-Khattab areas arrested Sergeant Sa'id Joseph Shalhub of the intelligence directorate's national security branch. He was arrested for spreading rumors which stir up sectarian strife in the nationalist areas and for attempting to enlist and engage agents to carry out sabotage in the nationalist and Islamic areas.

After questioning, Shalhub was handed over to the Internal Security Forces command in West Beirut, specifically to Colonel 'Isam Abu Dhikri and Lieutenant Colonel 'Adnan Ghusn.

PSP Calls on Inhabitants To Return Home

NC181553 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1330 GMT 18 Feb 84

[Text] An official source in the Progressive [Socialist] Party has called on the inhabitants of 'Aramun, Ad-Dawhah, and Khaldah to return to their homes. The source added that these areas have been purged of opposing forces and are now completely controlled up to the Ad-Damur bridge southward.

The socialist source said that electricity rationing will end this week. Lebanese Electricity Authority officials have been contacted to start repairing the high-tension lines that feed Beirut and its southern suburb with electricity.

Senior Officer Joins Hammana Barracks

NC181323 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1330 GMT 18 Feb 84

[Text] Staff Brigadier General Mahmud Abu Dirgham today announced that he is joining the military officers in the Hammanah barracks and putting himself under the command of Staff Major General Nadim al-Hakim.

Communist Party Delegation Meets Birri 18 Feb
NC181643 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1650 GMT 18 Feb 84

[Text] A Lebanese Communist Party delegation today paid a visit to the Amal Movement and met with Nabih Birri in the presence of some members of the Amal command. After the meeting, Karim Muruwwah, member of the Lebanese Communist Party Political Bureau, made a statement in which he hailed the heroes of the Amal Movement, the Progressive Socialist Party, and the other Lebanese nationalist forces. He affirmed that it was natural to inflict defeat on the policy of the Phalange Party and the authorities. He added that the massacres committed against the Lebanese people cannot pass without punishment.

Clandestine Cites U.S. Officials on Arms Ban
NC181123 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1000 GMT 18 Feb 84

[Text] U.S. officials have indicated that the United States will stop supplying Lebanon with weapons. The United States is concerned that these weapons might fall into the hands of antiregime forces, particularly since the latter have proved their superiority over the Lebanese Army.

RFL Says Sunni Officer Kidnapped in West Beirut
NC211000 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0945 GMT 21 Feb 84

[Text] In West Beirut members of the Progressive Socialist Party [PSP] kidnapped Captain Suhayl 'Uwaydat, a Sunni, from Bayrut hospital and took him to the PSP center in Al-Musaytibah.

Intermittent clashes have been taking place for some time on the Al-Barjawi-an-Nasirah axes. A little girl was wounded by sniper fire in the Sodeco area of Beirut.

Disputes Between Al-Hakim, 6th Brigade Denied
NC171755 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1642 GMT 17 Feb 84

[Text] An official military source at the 6th Brigade Command denied a report disseminated by the media that differences exist between Major General al-Hakim and the 6th Brigade Command. The source added that Maj Gen al-Hakim, in his capacity as the Army's chief of staff, made an inspection visit to the 6th Brigade Command in Henry Shihab barracks on 17 February 1984 and spoke to the officers there, calling on them to maintain their military discipline.

The source also denied another report to the effect that a number of officers, including an officer of a 6th Brigade unit, have met with non-Lebanese officers. The source emphasized that all the officers and personnel of the 6th Brigade are confined to their barracks and act in accordance with the instructions of the 6th Brigade Command and with the statement issued by the brigade commander in this respect on 8 February 1984.

Lebanese Forces Command Adheres to 17 May Pact
NC171758 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1645 GMT 17 Feb 84

[Text] The Lebanese Forces Command Council issued a statement tonight saying:

The Lebanese Forces Command Council wants to assert the following:

1. The Command Council emphasizes its stand on the 17 May agreement which it declared last Monday. The Lebanese Forces continue to adhere to the agreement and urges the State to maintain, ratify, and implement that agreement. The agreement is the only way to save the south, north, and Al-Biqa'. The agreement will also prevent the restoration of full Syrian hegemony over the Lebanese land and people, and prevent the imposition of Syrian decisions. Anyone seeking to cancel this agreement through pressure and terror is actually serving Syria's interests in remaining in Lebanon and dominating it.

2. The Lebanese Forces' resistance to aggression and tyranny, which began 9 years ago and prevented the imposition of any will on Lebanon, is the main hope for maintaining the security of liberated Christian areas.

The Lebanese Forces' statement adds: We have thus far been up to the challenge. We shall be the protecting shield and strong support that will prevent any attack from any source, under any pretext, against our areas.

Afram on Protection of Christians' Interests
NC210742 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0645 GMT 21 Feb 84

[Text] Lebanese Forces Commander Fadi Afram has emphasized that the era of no options is over but that the Lebanese Forces are very well aware that the options are very limited. The Lebanese Forces warn that as of today they will oppose any option that is incompatible with the aspirations of the Christian community and that there is no need to point out that the Lebanese Forces' sole concern is that the Christian community remains it own master.

Afram pointed out that the Lebanese Forces are free from any commitment that is contrary to their action plan, which calls for the confrontation of any action harmful to the Christians' freedom, interests, and aspirations. He said: This means that there will be no concessions as of today except those that would facilitate the implementation of our aim: to achieve the security and freedom of the Christian community.

Reportage on Leaders Meetings, Comments on Lebanon

Saudi Foreign Minister Arrives

JN171635 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 17 Feb 84

[Text] Damascus — Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal arrived in Damascus at 1700 today. He was met at Damascus International Airport by 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister. Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal made a statement to journalists at the airport in which he said: I am bringing a message for President Hafiz al-Asad from His Majesty King Fahd. My visit to Syria will also be an opportunity to meet with 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and to exchange views with him on the current situation.

Asked about the rumors concerning the existence of a Saudi plan to solve the crisis in Lebanon, Khaddam said: Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal contacted me last night and said that President Amin al-Jumayyil had sent his foreign minister to Saudi Arabia with ideas on finding a solution to the crisis in Lebanon and that the foreign minister wanted to come to Syria to convey these ideas to me.

Asked his opinion about what the news media have published on these Lebanese ideas, Khaddam replied: These ideas which were attributed to President al-Jumayyil conflict with what was reached at the national dialogue conference in Geneva. For instance, the national dialogue conference agreed that Lebanon is an Arab country, that its identity is Arab, and that the Lebanese regime must embody this Arab affiliation in all fields. How can the Lebanese citizen exercise and embody his Arabism if he has to place the Israeli enemy and Syria on an equal footing?

Meets With Khaddam

JN171847 Damascus Televison Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 17 Feb 84

[Text] Damascus — 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, this evening held a meeting with Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal. The meeting was attended by the Saudi ambassador in Damascus. The discussion during this meeting dealt with the current Arab situation, especially in Lebanon.

Rejection of Al-Jumayyil Proposals

JN171905 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1852 GMT 17 Feb 84

[Text] We have just received the following:

An information source has stated the following:

The proposals presented by Amin al-Jumayyil are considered to be an obvious deception. In addition to being contrary to what was agreed on at the Geneva conference, these proposals constitute an implementation and not a cancellation of the 17 May agreement because these proposals call for adopting the security measures that guarantee Israel's security, and because these propposals demand the simultaneous withdrawal of both Syria and Israel. These are the most important points of the 17 May agreement and its annexes — an agreement that is rejected by all of the Lebanese and Arab nationalist forces.

Details of Rejection, Meetings

JN172152 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 2030 GMT 17 Feb 84

[Louis Faris dispatch from Damascus in the "Panorama" program]

[Text] It seems that Syria is now strongly rejecting the proposals that were described as a new Saudi initiative but which Minister Khaddam described as the ideas of President al-Jumayyil. The latest developments tonight are as follows:

Saudi Foreign Minister Sa'ud al-Faysal arrived in Damascus and said that he was carrying a message for President al-Asad from King Fahd. He described his visit as an opportunity to meet with his Syrian counterpart 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam to exchange viewpoints on the current situation.

Journalists asked Minister Khaddam about the new Saudi initiative to solve the crisis in Lebanon. He replied: Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal contacted me yesterday and told me that President Amin al-Jumayyil sent his foreign minister to Saudi Arabia with what Khaddam described as President al-Jumayyil's ideas on finding a solution to the Lebanese crisis. Khaddam added that Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal wanted to come to Syria to convey these ideas. This is contrary to what was reported earlier. The correction is that Minister Khaddam had meant the Saudi foreign minister and not the Lebanese foreign minister.

Asked about the ideas published by certain news media, Khaddam replied: These ideas which were attributed to President al-Jumayyil conflicted with what was reached at the national dialogue conference in Geneva. For instance, Khaddam said, the national dialogue conference agreed that Lebanon is an Arab country, its identity is Arab, and that the Lebanese system must embody this Arab affiliation in all fields. Minister Khaddam then asked: How can the Lebanese citizen exercise and embody his Arabism if he has to place the Israeli enemy and Syria on an equal footing.

A bilateral meeting then took place between Khaddam and Sa'ud al-Faysal. Khaddam then received Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt in the presence of some of his aides. The meeting lasted 1 hour. This was after Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal had left the Syrian Foreign Ministry.

In the meantime, Saudi mediator Rafiq al-Hariri had arrived in Damascus and held a meeting with former Lebanese Prime Minister Taqiy ad-Din as-Sulh. This meeting was attended by 'Abdallah al-Amin.

Later, Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal and Rafiq al-Hariri received in their suite at the Sheraton Hotel Ministers Khaddam and Faruq ash-Shar'. This meeting is still in progress.

In the meantime, a Syrian official source has stated the following: The ideas presented by Amin al-Jumayyil are considered to be an obvious deception. In addition to being contrary to what was agreed on at the Geneva conference, these ideas constitute an implementation, and not a cancellation, of the 17 May agreement, because these ideas call for adopting the security measures that guarantee Israel's security, and because they demand the simultaneous withdrawal of both Syria and Israel. These are the most important points of the 17 May agreement and its annexes, the agreement that is rejected by all of the Lebanese and Arab nationalist forces.

Thus all hopes which were pinned on Syria's approval of the new ideas have vanished.

Rejection Denied, Al-Asad Meeting

JN181119 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1105 GMT 18 Feb 84

[Text] An urgent dispatch we just received from Damascus reports that Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad this morning received Saudi Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal who stated that Syria has not rejected the Saudi proposals but that there are new ideas which are being discussed. Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal added that no official rejection has been made so far.

Details of Saudi-Syrian Meetings

JN181132 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 18 Feb 84

[Text] Damascus — At 1145 today, President Hafiz al-Asad received Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal. 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and 'Abdallah Salih al-Fadl, Saudi ambassador in Damascus attended the meeting. 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam today received Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal. During the meeting, they discussed the current political situation in the region, especially in Lebanon.

Al-Faysal Statement Reported

JN181235 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1220 GMT 18 Feb 84

[Text] In a statement to the press at the Sheraton Hotel, Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud Al-Faysal stated that Syria has not rejected the plan on the settlement of the Lebanese crisis, and that several ideas that have been put forth are under discussion. He added: We have not received any official rejection of the plan, and Saudi Arabia will pursue its efforts to bring the viewpoints closer together.

Further on Statement

JN181404 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1315 GMT 18 Feb 84

[Text] 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, received Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal at 1100 today. Faruq ash-Shar', minister of state for foreign affairs, and Saudi ambassador 'Abdallah ibn Salih al-Fadl attended the meeting. They reviewed the current situation in the region, particularly the Lebanese situation. In a statement to reporters after the meeting in reply to a question from the SANA correspondent on President Amin al-Jumayyil's plan and Saudi Arabia's role in this plan, Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal said: These ideas were presented by the Lebanese Government and put forward by President Amin al-Jumayyil. We are currently exchanging views with the Syrian officials on these ideas in order to establish peace in Lebanon.

Today, Riyadh radio broadcast a statement by a responsible source in which he referred to media reports that Saudi Arabia has presented an eight-point plan to end the Lebanese crisis. The source said: The Kingdom has not presented any particular plan. Its efforts have been devoted to reconciling the various viewpoints of all Lebanese factions, because of its firm belief that there is a supreme common interest on which all ideas and opinions are concentrated.

Prince Sa'ud, Al-Hariri Depart

JN181426 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1400 GMT 18 Feb 84

[Text] Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal held a lengthy meeting today with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad. Following the meeting, the Saudi minister made a statement to our radio. It was conveyed to us by our correspondent in Damascus Louis Faris.

[Begin Louis Faris recording] Following the lengthy meeting between Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal and President Hafiz al-Asad, which was attended by Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal gave us the following statement: The nature of the talks was that we conveyed to the brothers in Syria ideas submitted by the Lebanese Government. Naturally, what motivated us and all the Arab homeland regarding these circumstances was to find a way to deal with the Lebanese problem in a manner that would guarantee Lebanon's unity, independence, and sovereignty, particularly under these difficult circumstances.

Sa'ud al-Faysal added: It was hoped that the Arab brothers, particularly in Syria, would adopt a stand that would help and contribute to the achievement of progress vis-a-vis the Lebanese question. During the talks, we did not get the Syrian Government's approval of the ideas submitted by the Lebanese Government. However, we arrived at new proposals which we will convey to the government in Beirut.

Saudi mediator Rafiq al-Hariri left Damascus for Beirut, carrying the new proposals. [End recording]

A short while ago Louis Faris telephoned us again to convey to us Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam's response to a question on the nature of the Syrian proposals. In his reply, the Syrian minister said: It is only one proposal; namely, the abrogation of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement. Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal left Damascus a short while ago.

Further on Al-Asad-Prince Sa'ud Talks

JN181551 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 18 Feb 84

[Excerpts] Damascus — At 1145 today, President Hafiz al-Asad received Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal. 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister and 'Abdallah ibn Salih al-Fadl, Saudi ambassador in Damascus, attended the meeting.

Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal conveyed to the president a message from King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz dealing with the situation in the region and the latest Lebanese developments. The president asked him to convey a reply message to King Fahd. During the meeting, Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal briefed the president on the points which Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil sent to Saudi Arabia, requesting the Saudis to discuss them with Syria. During the discussion of these points, the president stressed the importance of the Lebanese authority's implementation of what the Lebanese agreed upon at the Geneva national dialogue conference, no more and no less, because here lies the interest of Lebanon and its people.

Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal left Damascus this afternoon.

Libya's Jallud Departs Damascus

JN181430 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 18 Feb 84

[Text] Major 'Abd as-Salam Jallud, member of the 1 September Revolution, left Damascus this morning after a week-long visit to Syria during which he met with President Hafiz al-Asad. Jallud also held talks with 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, on the current situation in the region. Jallud was seen off at Damascus International Airport by 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; the Foreign Ministry's chief of protocol; the Libyan charge d'affaires; and the embassy staff.

Lebanon's Birri Meets Al-Asad

JN191228 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1205 GMT 19 Feb 84

[Louis Faris dispatch from Damascus]

[Text] Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad received a short while ago attorney Nabih Birri, leader of the Amal Movement, who arrived in Damascus yesterday evening. On the other hand, Nabih Birri and Walid Junblatt, leader of the Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party, met in the presence of Khalid Junblatt, Marwan Hamadah, and 'Abdallah al-Amin. They all declined to make any statements to the press. Walid Junblatt and Fatah dissident leader Nimr Salih are expected to hold a joint news conference this afternoon to speak about coordination between the Palestinian forces in Lebanon and the Lebanese National Front command.

Military Spokesman on IDF Raid

JN191926 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1919 GMT 19 Feb 84

[Text] A military spokesman has stated the following:

The Israeli enemy has continued the escalation of its acts of aggression against the Lebanese people. At 1455 today, 19 February 1984, formations of enemy aircraft bombed residential areas in Hammanah, Bhamdun, Ru'aysat, Sawfar, and An-Na'imah. A number of casualties were sustained among the civilians. Our air defense means near the area confronted the enemy planes and forced them to return toward the occupied territory.

Saudi Crown Prince Arrives 20 Feb

JN201308 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 20 Feb 84

[Text] Damascus — At 1330 this afternoon Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, Saudi crown prince and commander of the National Guard, arrived on a visit to Syria. He was met on arrival by Prime Minister 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm; Comrade Rif'at al-Asad, member of the regional command; and a number of ministers.

Meets Al-Asad

JN201854 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1835 GMT 20 Feb 84

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad received Saudi Crown Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz at 2000 today. Prince Bandar ibn Sultan, Prince Turki ibn 'Abdallah, the delegation accompanying the crown prince, and the Saudi ambassador in Damascus attended the meeting. The president and Prince 'Abdallah held a closed meeting during which they continued the talks. The talks dealt with the current situation in the region and the Lebanese arena in light of recent developments, and with issues of common interest.

Further Details

JN201306 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 20 Feb 84

[Louis Faris dispatch from Damascus]

[Text] Intensive meetings continued here during the past 24 hours. After the long meeting yesterday afternoon between President Hafiz al-Asad and lawyer Nabih Birri, a meeting took place at 1800 last night at the Syrian Foreign Ministry during which Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam received Nabih Birri, Walid Junblatt, Riyad Ra'd, 'Abdallah al-Amin, Marwan Hamadah, and Khalid Junblatt. A short while later, and according to a source in the Lebanese Nationalist Movement, the meeting was joined by General Hikmat ash-Shihab, chief of the army staff; and Major General 'Ali Duba, chief of military intelligence, who participated in this meeting for about 3 hours. After the departure of Ash-Shihabi and Duba, the meeting was

joined by the Palestinian leaders: Nimr Salih, 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar, and Samir Ghawshah. The meeting continued until just after midnight. In other words it lasted in all for about 6 hours.

It appears from the statements made by Nabih Birri and Walid Junblatt to journalists after the meeting that it was agreed that the responsibility for security in West Beirut will be in the hands of the forces belonging to the Amal Movement and the Progressive Socialist Party [PSP]. The Army forces which are sympathetic with the nationalist forces shall remain in their barracks.

Walid Junblatt told the journalists: We discussed matters related to the political and military efforts which we are exerting with the Amal Movement to protect the civilians in West Beirut against any aggression. The same applies to the Palestinian civilians who we are dutybound to protect.

Walid Junblatt added: The alliance between the Amal Movement and the PSP will determine the future of Lebanon.

When pressed by the journalists, Junblatt said: We discussed other issues, but we will not divulge them to the press. Junblatt reiterated his demand for the resignation of President Amin al-Jumayyil and the abrogation of the 17 May agreement. There is no going back on these demands, he said.

Nabih Birri repeated the same thing to the journalists. He added that the responsibility for security in West Beirut will be in the hands of the forces represented by the existing alliance between the PSP and the Amal Movement and that specific and firm bases have been drawn up so that they will be applied on the ground for the sake of preserving the citizens' security and protecting the society in Beirut and other areas. Nabih Birri firmly demanded that President Amin al-Jumayyil tender his resignation. If he does not respond to this demand, then he will be overthrown. Birri said.

Nabih Birri said that there are certain basic principles; namely, the abrogation of the 17 May agreement and the eradication of political factionalism in the Lebanese society.

Regarding coordination with the Palestinian leaders, Nabih Birri said: The Palestinian presence in Beirut and other parts of Lebanon is part of the nationalist presence in Lebanon. As for the Palestinian camps, they are the responsibility of the Lebanese nationalist forces. Birri also said: There is no need for Palestinian military presence. This matter has been agreed upon with the Palestinian leader.

Replying to a question on coordination between the Palestinian forces on the one hand and the Amal and National Salvation Front [NSF] forces on the other, Nabih Birri said: This coordination exists. Everything that serves the interests of Lebanon is being done.

Nabih Birri, Walid Jublatt, Marwan Hamadah, and Khalid Junblatt left Damascus today for Beirut to personally supervise the implementation of what was agreed upon during last night's long meeting.

Khaddam Meets Lebanese Delegation

JN201343 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 20 Feb 84

[Text] Damascus — 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, this morning received a delegation representing Lebanese popular organizations and committees. The delegation comprises Bashshar Murhij, Mu'in Bashshur, Ghazi al-Adhami, and 'Adnan 'Inati. During the meeting, the talks dealt with the current developments in the Lebanese arena.

U.S. Senate Delegation Arrives

JN201947 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 20 Feb 84

[Text] A U.S. Senate delegation led by Senator John Tower, chairman of the Armed Services Senate Committee, arrived in Damascus this afternoon.

Israeli Military Movements Reported

JN202041 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 20 Feb 84

[Text] Citing their correspondents in southern Lebanon, news agencies have confirmed that the Zionist forces are currently carrying out intensive movements in areas of southern Lebanon, and along the Al-Awwali River in preparation for moving their forces north and advancing toward Beirut and Ash-Shuf. The correspondents affirm in their reports that large numbers of tanks and military transport vehicles are currently assembling north of the Al-Awwali River as a first step for advancing toward the North.

News agencies reported yesterday that a Zionist convoy comprised of tanks, armored vehicles, and transport vehicles crossed the Al-Awwali River and advanced toward the north. Observers link these Israeli movements with the news of Israel's intention to carry out a military operation in cooperation with the U.S. Administration in order to abort the military victory scored by the Lebanese nationalist forces.

Khaddam Receives Saudi Prince 21 Feb

JN210925 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0915 GMT 21 Feb 84

[Text] 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, this morning received Prince Bandar ibn Sultan, Saudi ambassador in Washington; and [Saudi mediator] Rafiq al-Hariri. The talks dealt with the current situation in the region, particularly the situation in the Lebanese arena.

Al-Hariri Delivers Lebanese Reply

JN211118 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1102 GMT 21 Feb 84

[Louis Faris dispatch from Damascus]

[Text] Saudi mediator Rafiq al-Hariri arrived in Damascus late last night. He met with Saudi Crown Prince 'Abdallah and Saudi Ambassador in Washington Bandar ibn Sultan this morning and conveyed to them the Lebanese Government's reply to the Syrian proposals which had earlier been conveyed to Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal during his short visit to Damascus on Saturday — proposals which Al-Hariri conveyed to President Amin al-Jumayyil.The Syrian foreign minister then received Prince Bandar ibn Sultan and Rafiq al-Hariri in his office to discuss the latest Lebanese developments in the light of the reply which Al-Hariri brought from Beirut. The meeting was continuingat the time of this newscast.

Bandar:Khaddam Talks 'Very Good'

JN211231 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1210 GMT 21 Feb 84

[Louis Faris dispatch from Damascus]

[Excerpt] At 1030 today, Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam received Prince Bandar ibn Sultan and Rafiq al-Hariri at the Syrian Foreign Ministry and discussed with them the latest Lebanese developments. Following this meeting, which lasted about 3 hours, Prince Bandar told journalists: This meeting was very good. We are optimistic and doing our best to spare the Lebanese bloodshed. The Syrian brothers have been very cooperative and I am very pleased with this meeting.

Replying to a question on the subject of new proposals or new ideas, Prince Bandar said: There is nothing new now, but we are discussing the presented proposals. Asked his opinion about the Israeli move, he said: We all know the Israeli intentions and do not accept them.

Asked if he will leave for Beirut, he said no. However, he hoped to be able to accompany Prince 'Abdallah later today on his official visit to the British capital.

Damascus Cites Shamir, Kimche

JN171748 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 17 Feb 84

[Text] Enemy entity — Yitzhaq Shamir has affirmed that the Zionist invasion forces will remain opposite the Syrian forces in Lebanon at Washington's request. He added that Israel will reserve for itself the right to intervene in Lebanon at any time. In an interview published in the Zionist paper *HA'ARETZ*, the enemy prime minister said that his government will soon reduce its forces in southern Lebanon. He affirmed, however, that the Israeli forces will remain where they are now opposite the Syrian forces. Shamir described what is being said about the cancellation of the agreement which was imposed on Lebanon on 17 May as a serious precedent. He affirmed his government's opposition to limiting Zionist settlement in the occupied West Bank and Gaza, because these areas are an indivisible part of Israel, as he said. On the other hand, David Kimche, director general of the Zionist Foreign Ministry, today affirmed that Israel will keep its forces in Lebanon to guarantee what he termed the security of Israel's northern border. He said that Israel will not hesitate to take any military action if it is threatened by Syria, as he said.

Addressing foreign journalists in Japan, Kimche claimed that the cancellation of the 17 May agreement, which was imposed on Lebanon, would mean the end of Lebanon's independence and would not end the dispute in Lebanon. Kimche renewed his entity's threats that Israel will not hesitate to take any measures to defend what he termed Israel's security.

Media Comments on Latest Lebanese Developments

'Illegality' of Proposed Solutions

JN171658 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 17 Feb 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] What is based on right is always sound, just as it is deep rooted and firm in the nations' conscious and in the principles of past and present history. This saying also holds true for Lebanon in particular and the Arab region in general, especially since the Arab people's conscious is living and creative and full of examples of right, honor, and dignity.

What has taken place in Lebanon since the Israeli-U.S. invasion is wrong and constitutes an action against the Lebanese people's will and at the expense of their land and dignity. Just as what is based on error is always error, every situation that Tel Aviv, Washington, and the forces of the Phalangist domination impose on Lebanon is null and illegal even if some people claim that it is legitimate or has something to do with formal legitimacy.

It is completely illegal for Israel to impose the agreement of submission on Lebanon under the Israeli occupation forces, U.S. pressures, and the Phalangist collusion. It is also illegal for a small factional group, represented by the fascist Phalangist Party, to seek the enemy's support, terrorize and humiliate the Lebanese people, and try to cut off the Lebanese people from their nation and change the identity of their land and homeland. All these aggressive actions are illegal and have nothing to do with legitimacy. They were imposed on the Lebanese people through unjust force, collusion with the enemy, and through the enemy's support. But the logic of unjust forces, the forces of the Israeli occupation and the U.S. aggression, can not protect the Phalangists' falsehood and evil objectives that they want to impose on Lebanon. Therefore, the Lebanese people have realized an uprising in the suburbs, the mountain area, and Beirut, and the success they have achieved on the ground is a victory for Lebanon and the real legitimacy; it consitutes a defeat for the aggressive U.S. policy and the barbaric Israeli invasion as well as a defeat for the fascist, racist Phalangist course.

By their uprising, the Lebanese people have proved that legitimacy is what is accepted by the majority of the Lebanese people

and that it is consistent with their Arab affiliation and their national and pan-Arab objectives. It is illegal for factional domination, Israeli occupation, and the unjust U.S. force to impose anything on Lebanon. This situation forces the hostile sides to accept the new reality that the Lebanese people created through their heroes' blood, sons' sacrifices, and masses' steadfastness, and forces these sides to reconsider their calculations and acknowledge that the agreement of submission will never be accepted or acknowledge or allowed to live because it was born dead.

Despite the fact that they were compelled to recognize the realities that the Lebanese people had epitomized on the ground, these sides, which miscalculated the state of affairs and practiced their policy of aggression and stupidity, are still maneuvering and resorting to the policy of blackmail and threats, threatening to use force, and holding others responsible for their defeat and for the failure of their aggressive policy instead of confessing their error or crime that they committed against Lebanon and its Arab people.

Within this framework, Israel's implicit and explicit threats against the Lebanese people and Syria prove that despite the Israeli's admitting the failure of their invasion of Lebanon, the Zionists still harbor an aggressive spirit of adventurism and the logic of stupid aggression — although the Israeli enemy knows that the logic of aggression is doomed to failure and defeat.

But the Israelis do not want to derive benefit from the Lebanese lesson. Minister of war Arens' visit to Jazzin is similar to Sharon's visits to Beirut, although the circumstances are different. It seems that despite their bitterness, the Israelis are trying to bypass these circumstances in order to preserve some of their aggressive objectives in Lebanon.

Although we understand that despite their failure, the Israelis continue to be haughty, we do not understand or accept the U.S. Administration resorting to the same method. It seems that despite its complete failure, the U.S Administration is adopting the same Israeli method with minor differences in terms of words and expressions.

Washington still adheres to the agreement of submission. When it shows a false flexibility toward any Lebanese or Israeli abandonment of the agreement, Washington also uses the Israeli threat itself concerning southern Lebanon. What is more strange is that the United States tries to show that Syria is a stumbling block from the U.S. point of view. This has clear meanings, but Syria adheres to its principles because Syria adopts a clear position toward Lebanon. Syria wants for Lebanon what the Lebanese people want. Syria wants Lebanon to be itself and to act in accordance with the will of the majority of the Lebanese people.

These are Syria's conditions, if we can describe them as conditions. There will be no need for Syrian military presence in Lebanon when Lebanon becomes free from the Israeli occupation, the aggressive U.S. forces, and the domination of factional and fascist terrorism. Syria announced that it supports Lebanon's people and their nationalist forces. Syria also wants what the Lebanese people want for themselves. These realities should be clear to all people, and it should be clear that the Israelis, the Americans, and the Phalangist course are the reasons behind the Lebanese crisis, and that the agreement of submission, the illegitimate son of the Israeli occupation and the Phalangist collusion, should depart Lebanon without any delay — especially since any maneuver in this regard will be doomed to failure because what is based on right is sound, and what is based on falsehood is falsehood.

Basis For Lebanese Unity Discussed

JN181555 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 18 Feb 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] Gentlemen, the discussions of the Lebanese national dialogue conference in Geneva and the developments that followed this conference have confirmed that what Lebanon needs in order to maintain its identity, to remain a country for all Lebanese citizens, and to retain its existence is a national decision. This national decision can only be acheived through a clear and decisive choice between the Arabs and Israel; between an independent and sovereign Lebanon or a Lebanon subservient to imperialism and Israel; between a Lebanon that is loyal to its Arabism or a Lebanon that is a Zionist and imperialist base and a path to the Arab countries; between a Lebanon that is for all the Lebanese citizens or a Lebanon that submits to the control of a small group; between a government that represents the majority of the Lebanese and a national Lebanese accord or a government that embodies the dictum of the victor and vanquished. There can be no compromise among all these options.

In light of the Lebanese situation and the dangers to Lebanon and its people, any government in Lebanon is required to define its stand clearly and resolutely. Contradictions and maneuvers to evade making decisions; to say one thing and do another; to adopt stands then seek to revoke these stands; to propose an understanding among Lebanese parties and then attempt to decide the situation militarily with these parties; to announce the desire for an understanding with Syria and the Arabs and then implement Israel's will; and to hint at the desire for cancelling the 17 May agreement and then actually seek to implement it through twisted means does not serve Lebanon.

The Lebanese national dialogue conference in Geneva has set the bases for any national Lebanese unity. No Lebanese Government can survive if it does not rely on these bases. The most important of these basis is that Lebanon is an Arab country. How can Lebanon be an Arab country when at the same time it puts Israel, the invader, the aggressor, and the occupier, and fraternal Syria on an equal footing? How can a Lebanese ruler be concerned about Lebanon's Arab relations and commitments and at the same time call for the implementation of all Israel's demands regarding turning Lebanon into an extension of Israeli security against Syria and the Arabs? How can a Lebanese ruler that seeks to be recognized by the Lebanese people reconcile the historical fact, in which the overwhelming majority of the Lebanese beleive, that Lebanon is Arab in its identity, language, and affiliation, with the achievement of Israel's ambitions in Lebanon's air, land, waters, sovereignty, and independence? It is

impossible for any Lebanese ruler to have both the Arabs and Israel at the same time; to satisfy both the Lebanese people and Israel; to safeguard Lebanon's independence and sovereignty and at the same time be submitted to U.S. imperialism and implement the U.S. policy that is coordinated with Israel and hostile to Lebanon and the Arabs.

During the Geneva conference it became clear that there can be no agreement among the Lebanese groups except through the cancellation of the 17 May agreement that undermines Lebanon's independence and sovereignty, violates Lebanon's Arab relations and commitments, and disrupts a number of the bases on which the Lebanese entity was founded — bases that are necessary for its survival, continuation, and role. Any deviation from this fact will only mean an action against the Lebanese national accord, the Lebanese people and their interests, and Syria and the Arabs. This action will also be in the interest of Israel, the United States, and all Lebanon's enemies. It has become clear that the overwhelming majority of the Lebanese people reject the 17 May agreement that was brought about by the United States, and that only a very small minority still support the agreement. The balance of power on the ground between the supporters of and opponents of the agreement has become clear despite all the military and political support that the United States and its military forces have extended to those who are involved in the agreement.

Anyone who attempts to impose on the majority of the Lebanese people through foreign assistance and instigation that which the people reject and which contradicts the people's interests, will only expose himself to dangers, condemn himself by his own actions, and follow a road that has been followed by many others before him who did not succeed or survive. The Lebanese regime cannot be strong through its reliance on the United States and Israel. It cannot survive a blessing from Washington and Tel Aviv. The Lebanese regime will only be strong if it is close to the people, responds to their will, and concerns itself with their independence, sovereignty, and dignity. It must reject what the people reject and accept what the people accept. It will not be in the interest of any government in Lebanon to win all the imperialist states and capitals and lose the Lebanese people.

Rumsfeld Mission 'Meaningless'

JN191900 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1729 GMT 19 Feb 84

[Text] The Syrian newspapers today accused the Lebanese Government of working to bring about a large-scale Israeli military operation to invade Beirut again and start a war between Israel and Syria with the aim of saving the Lebanese regime. *AL-BA'TH* said that any attempt to reactivate the Lebanese-Israeli agreement will wipe out any hope to solve the Lebanese crisis. The paper questioned the purpose behind U.S. envoy Rumsfeld's new mission in the Middle East and said: This mission seems utterly meaningless.

Effect of Changed Military Balance

JN181011 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 18 Feb 84

[Press review]

[Text] *TISHRIN* says: We hope that the military results of the battles during the past few days between the Lebanese nationalist forces and the Phalangist Army and its militias, which are backed by the U.S. fleet and its huge firepower, will provide Amin Al-Jumayyil with a good opportunity to review all of his calculations, realize the magnitude of the national crime he has committed against Lebanon and its people, and become aware of the complex dilemma in which the United States has placed him. He must realize — and this is the most important thing — Syria's warnings about the impossibility of achieving a military settlement even if the United States puts all of its military strength in the Mediterranean at his side in his treacherous battle.

This advice is realistic and stems from a comprehensive and accurate understanding of the military balances and the new equations that have imposed themselves on Lebanon — equations that reflect the magnitude of the real misery in Lebanon and the great changes that have occurred in and affected the parties to the dispute. This should have made the Lebanese authorities comprehensively reassess and radically reevaluate their demented stands toward the national settlement in Lebanon so that they would be in harmony with the future, nationalist Lebanon and its democratic, social, and political bases. Al-Jumayyil must realize that history does not go back, and that closing one's eyes to or ignoring the objective facts and the explicit realities will not cancel them. Thus pigheadedness will only lead to further defeats for the Lebanese authorities and their army.

After reviewing Al-Jumayyil's conspiratorial role and his attempts to seek the assistance of the United States and Israel against the people and the homeland, *TISHRIN* says: From the very first moment the 17 May agreement was concluded, Syria has said through President al-Asad that this agreement was stillborn. Syria was well aware of the extent of its responsibilities and the role it would be required to assume in order to foil it, irrespective of the many eventualities and repercussions that this may entail. Syria did not forget that the United States would try to impose all of the fleets, warships, and strike forces that it possesses. Syria also knew that by adopting this stand it would face the full impact of U.S. antagonism and the entire fleet that is present off the Lebanese and Syrian coasts. We were aware of all this and we were preparing to kill the agreement and assume the responsibility for the consequences, despite the fact that we knew the United States to be a superpower with huge military strength.

We are confident that the agreement will be foiled for good after it has been foiled on the ground. All of the *New Jersey*'s guns, the very sophisticated Tomcat planes, and even they very impudent threats the U.S. Administration has recently made will not be capable of rescuing the agreement. Nothing other than what the Lebanese people and their nationalist forces desire will take

place in Lebanon. All of Syria's military and political resources will support what the Lebanese people want. They will soon see that what Syria possesses will guarantee that this objective is achieved.

ATH-THAWRAH comments on the victory of the Lebanese people's will over the conspiracies and the forces of aggression. The paper says: The confusion the parties to the imperialist-Zionist conspiracy and their agents in Lebanon are currently experiencing is the natural result of their policy of aggression and the erroneous practices that have led to this result. The Zionist invasion of Lebanon, which has brought about the so-called Lebanese-Israeli agreement and the presence of the Marines and the multinational forces, can in no way whatsoever continue because the Lebanese people, who have risen to confront the invasion and who have expressed their rejection of the stillborn agreement, will not halt their resistance. On the contrary, they have proved on the ground that they are capable of dealing with the threats that are posed to Lebanon's unity, Arab affiliation, freedom, and independence.

Though one of the positive aspects of the Lebanese masses' struggle has been the abortion of any possible military settlement by the Phalangists, the underming of the partitioning scheme, and the foiling of the U.S. hegemonist attempts, one of the most important result produced by the current confrontation in the Lebanese arena between the national, pan-Arab, and progressive forces on the one hand and the Zionist invaders, the United States, and their agents on the other has been the practical cancellation of the agreement of submission. No one — even those who imagined that they could use fleets, warships, and the forces of invasion to force the Lebanese people to give in to the fait accompli — can avoid the new realities that have changed the state of affairs concerning the invasion, the occupation, and the Phalangists' hegemony. These new realities have prominently outlined the Lebanese people's strength, not only in repulsing the U.S. and Israeli schemes and foiling the agreement of submission but also in preparing the groundwork for suitable bases to establish a future Lebanon that will be united and will have an Arab affiliation, identity, and fate.

May 17 Agreement Condemned

JN191919 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 19 Feb 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] Ladies and gentlemen: The Lebanese rule continues its policy which is hostile to the Lebanese people, and loyal to the United States and Israel despite its claimed intention to cancel the agreement of its submission to the Israeli enemy. The Lebanese rule's intention does not stem from conviction or patriotism, but from determination to search for a course through which it can peddle this agreement and carry out its objectives. How can this rule convince even a naive person that it is serious in fulfilling its intention, and honest in achieving it while the guns of its Phalangist army and militias are pouring out their shells, killing, injuring, destroying, and displacing the citizens? How can this rule be honest in cancelling the agreement of submission while it is presenting this cancellation with conditions aimed at implementing the points of the agreement in part and parcel? Do the two conditions, establishing security arrangements for Israeli in southern Lebanon and calling on Syria to withdraw its forces at the time when Israel withdraws its forces from Lebanon, not directly implement what was in the agreement of submission, and achieve Israel's expansionist and aggressive ambitions in the Lebanese territory?

The Lebanese rule is still following the path of maneuver, procrastination, and deceit to achieve its joint objectives with the United States and Israel in order to turn Lebanon into a U.S.-Israeli protectorate which will be guarded by the Phalangist Party and its men in the authority, and into a base of aggression against Syria to impose the imperialist-Zionist hegemony over our Arab region.

U.S. President Reagan announced that withdrawing his forces from the Lebanese territories to the ships positioned off the Lebanese coast does not mean that they will depart from Lebanon forever. The Israeli rulers asserted that they are not thinking of withdrawing their forces from southern Lebanon. This means that the U.S.-Israeli joint objectives in Lebanon are still waiting the suitable opportunity.

If the Lebanese rule is serious about cancelling the agreement of submission it must cancel the agreement without any conditions. In other words, if the Lebanese rule really wants to cancel the agreement it must do this directly and without detours and evasions. Syria will not forget its bitter experience with the Lebanese rule before and after signing the agreement. During the negotiations with the enemy, the leaders of this rule claimed that they could not cross the red lines — Lebanon's sovereignty, territorial integrity, and relations with the Arab countries. After signing the agreement, it became obvious that they adopted stands contrary to their allegations. They accepted what would strike at Lebanese sovereignty, threaten its unity, and undermine its Arab relations. Before signing the agreement, they claimed that they confined points of discussion to the framework of the truce agreement reached in 1949. After signing the agreement, they claimed that what they had done was confined to developing the 1949 agreement. Then they exerted feverish efforts to implement the agreement of their submission to the enemy.

After this bitter experience, will Syria believe the allegations made by the Lebanese rule without firm and clear proof? Struggler leader Hafiz al-Asad asserted that the Lebanese authority must fulfill what the Lebanese agreed on in the national dialogue conference — nothing more and nothing less — because this will achieve Lebanon's interests. This means that the Lebanese rule must sift its stands — it must not mix up its demands from fraternal Syria and the Israeli enemy. The Lebanese rule must deal with each of them in accordance with what it deserves. This was the most prominent subject on which the national dialgoue conference agreed — the brother will remain the brother, and the enemy will remain the enemy. If this is achieved, Syria will open its mind and heart. The first proof the Lebanese rule can present to affirm this stand is the unconditional abrogation of the agreement of submission. Will the leaders of this rule listen to reason, logic, patriotism, and conscience?

'Provocative' U.S. Statements

JN201810 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 20 Feb 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] Gentlemen: U.S. officials, especially Secretary of State George Shultz and U.S. Presidential adviser for national security affairs McFarlane, have begun making provocative and unrealistic statements on Lebanon, it situation, and its developments, as well as on Syria. These statements coincided with the utter failure of U.S. policy in Lebanon, with the collapse of U.S. credibility in the region, and with the appearance of U.S. failure or at least its unwillingness to carry out the tasks for which the U.S. Administration justified sending the U.S. Marines to Lebanon.

All who are interested in Lebanon and the Middle East, including U.S. and European circles, have become certain that U.S. interference in Lebanese internal affairs has not achieved any positive results. It has not achieved peace in Lebanon, it has not helped Lebanon to regain its independence, nor has it helped to establish institutions that represent the interests of all Lebanese people. U.S. interference precipitated the Lebanese civil war; helped the Israeli invaders; imposed the submissive agreement with Israel on the Lebanese ruler; and weakened the central government, and kept it away from the Lebanese masses and their interests.

Despite the U.S. military interference and the escalation of this interference, the United States could not impose its plans and will on the Lebanese people. The world has become convinced that Lebanon is not a U.S. state, a follower of the United States, or a banana republic in South America; that the Mediterranean Sea is not a U.S. lake; that the region is not under U.S. tutelage and control; and that the United States is not the force that is able to define the course of development in this important part of the world. The U.S. leaders' ignorance of geography, history, balances of power, and the force that moves development in the world has made them commit mistakes that will have repercussions both on their interests and positions in the region, and on world developments.

Some writers and commentators in the world compared the U.S. Marines' compulsory withdrawal from Lebanon to what happened to the United States when Saigon's agent government collapsed and the U.S. forces were defeated by the heroic Vietnamese people, and to what happened to the British and French colonialists after the tripartite aggression against Egypt in 1956. What has been taking place in Lebanon is an important turning point both for the U.S. imperialist in the region and for the future course of development in the region. It is also the starting point for a popular, national, and revolutionary uprising against imperialism and Zionism in the entire region — an uprising that will outline a bright future for this region. Syria is honored to be at the head of this uprising and to be its leader. Those who walk with the people will reach victory.

Despite Shultz' defense of the 17 May agreement and despite McFarlane's hints at using the force and guns of U.S. warships, the fact that cannot be hidden is that U.S. policy has failed in the Middle East because it is biased, unrealistic, hostile to the interests of the people, and dependent on guns instead of principles.

Lebanese-Israeli 'Alliance' Viewed

JN211005 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 21 Feb 84

[Press review]

[Text] In its "*AL-BA'TH* Opinion" column under the headline "The Deadly Option on the Lebanese Regime's Table," the newspaper *AL-BA'TH* writes: The press and other news media that are close to President Amin al-Jumayyil have for some time been disseminating deceptive ideas about the difficult options facing him after the intensification of the nationalist siege around him and after the beginning of the withdrawal or redeployment of the multinational force, including the major contingent represented by the U.S. Marines.

These circles revealed that one of these difficult options calls for the establishment of an official and public alliance between Beirut and Tel Aviv by means of an official visit to the Zionist entity by the Lebanese president with the aim of thoroughly discussing a framework for an alliance that would exceed all forms of reconciliation, truce, or other similar things, and that would make Tel Aviv responsible for protecting the Lebanese regime from the nationalist forces, which tightened their grip on the larger part of the Lebanese capital and its suburbs, and for assuming the task of confronting Syria and forcing it to leave Lebanon through a decisive military action.

Those who heard the news of the accelerating military and political developments in the Lebanese arena yesterday realize that it seems that this option has finally been adopted at the B'abda Palace and that Tel Aviv is giving proof of its good intentions even before President al-Jumayyil discusses or signs any paper on the alleged alliance.

The new Zionist military moves were preceded by several signs and acts by the B'abda ruler, emphasizing the strong connection between the steps which Al-Jumayyil is preparing to undertake toward this grave option and the new Zionist military intentions in Lebanon. In addition to the fact that President al-Jumayyil was in constant contact with the Zionist government through the officials and unofficial Phalangist envoys with the aim of reaching a final concept with Israel to confront the nationalist plan, Al-Jumayyil recently announced, in the course of expressing his ideas about the methods he deems suitable to solve the Lebanese crisis, that the failure of his eight-point plan will give rise to another plan that was undisclosed to the Lebanese people and the Arab nation until yesterday. The first signs of this plan appeared in the form of a new Zionist advance toward the north, this time in agreement with the Lebanese regime.

It seems that the Lebanese regime, headed by Al-Jumayyil, has not benefited at all from the Lebanese war lessons. Neither has it been convinced yet that the waves of invasion come and go and that only the people's stand, strength, and will for resistance and liberation remain. Syria, which has foiled all the results hoped for by the U.S.-Zionist-Phalangist alliance from the acts of

invasion, oppression, and occupation in Lebanon, is still qualified to topple the new Phalangist option before it sees light even if Israel is the protector. It can do so, supported by the Lebanese people with all their nationalist forces, which refused to bargain over their Arab affiliation. As President al-Jumayyil knows and as we have several times said, Israel no longer frightens us — if it ever did.

In its "Behind the News" column under the headline "The Established Lebanese Equation," *TISHRIN* writes: The broad lines of the White House policy are evident in its pressures on Amin al-Jumayyil's regime in an attempt to dissuade it from responding to the Lebanese nationalist forces' demands, which embody the legitimacy of the Lebanese decision. They are also evident in suggesting that the Israeli occupation forces carry out retaliatory military operations against the Lebanese nationalist forces.

In this regard, *THE WASHINGTON POST* said the U.S. President has decided to undertake a new diplomatic attempt to settle the Lebanese crisis — an attempt that takes into consideration guaranteeing security arrangements for Israel. It does not require a great effort to realize that Reagan's new, but old, attempt is primarily aimed at consecrating the Israeli occupation of southern Lebanon and giving Amin al-Jumayyil more time to rearrange the Lebanese papers in a manner that conforms with the policy of the United States and Israel — a policy which U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz described as becoming shaky after Israel's withdrawal from the Ash-Shuf mountains. Such an attempt is not dissociated from Al-Jumayyil's recent ideas which were rejected by the nationalist forces and Syria because these ideas are aimed at the implementation and consecration, and not the cancellation, of the 17 May agreement.

Al-Jumayyil Proposals Not New

JN190748 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 19 Feb 84

[Press review]

[Text] Under the headline "A Study of Al-Jumayyil's New Ideas" *AL-BA'TH* says: When studying the ideas that the Lebanese regime submitted as ideas for solving all details of the Lebanese crisis, one notices that the party that formulated the ill-omened 17 May agreement is the same one that has formulated these ideas. All that has been said about these ideas going beyond the 17 May agreement or about them canceling the agreement is merely a maneuver through which the regime seeks to bypass the gains the nationalist forces have obtained on the ground, and subsequently to entrench the fait accompli created by the 17 May agreement by playing on words.

Al-Jumayyil's proposals as a substitute solution to what was agreed on at the Geneva Conference are only an entrenchment of the 17 May agreement, not to mention the fact that the regime in Beirut has already implemented most of the provisions of the 17 May agreement.

Al-Jumayyil is now seeking to use the ideas he has proposed in order to Arabize the contract of submission, just as the Egyptian regime is trying to do. Al-Jumayyil's ideas make Syria and Israel completely equal. These ideas also give Israel the right to dispose of southern Lebanon as it wants. These ideas overtly acknowledge the existence of security measures for Israel in southern Lebanon. Everyone knows that Israel is not asking for more than this at the present time, particularly after the new developments that have taken place in the Lebanese arena.

In the wake of the victories the nationalist forces have scored on the ground, victories that even Lebanon's enemies admitted, one expected Al-Jumayyil to submit proposals that would help to implement what was agreed on at the Geneva conference and not proposals that would undermine what was agreed on in Geneva — as Al-Jumayyil is trying to do with these ideas. In spite of all that has taken place and in spite of the presence of a Lebanese majority calling for a constructive dialogue that will restore Lebanon's unity, the regime in Beirut still believes that all of its problems can be settled by the United States and Israel, and not by the Lebanese themselves. Although this bet has proved to be a complete failure, the regime continues to insist on it.

Had the Lebanese regime listened to the demands of the Lebanese majority when the mountain battle ended last year and the Geneva conference began, matters would not have been as they are now and stability would have prevailed throughout Lebanon. However, the regime chose to antagonize the Lebanese people, and insisted on participating in the schemes and objectives of Israel and the United States in the region.

It goes without saying that the regime in Beirut realizes very well that any settlement seeking to circumvent the new developments that have taken place on the ground, particularly in West Beirut and other areas, will be a very grave mistake. However, it seems that the regime is deeply involved in the U.S. and Israeli scheme. This means that any hopes under the present regime of reaching a solution that will be in the interest of Lebanon and its people are not only weak but have become almost impossible.

Iranian Commerce Minister Meets With Leaders

Meets Prime Minister

JN181355 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 18 Feb 84

[Text] Damascus — At 1000 today Prime Minister Dr 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm received 'Abedi Ja'fari, Iranian minister of commerce. Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohsen Mujtahid, Majlis deputy and chairman of the Majlis Commerce Committee; and the delegation. members of the Dr Salim Yasin, minister of economy and foreign trade, attended the meeting.

The talks during the meeting dealt with the efforts and sacrifices that the Arab and Islamic masses should offer to confront Zionism and the plans of world imperialism, and to purge the Arab and Islamic lands of all the forces of occupation as well as of Zionist and colonialist hegemony. The talks also dealt with the means of developing economic and commercial relations between the two friendly countries. The prime minister also acquainted himself with the results of the talks that the Iranian delegation held in Damascus.

Al-Asad Meeting

JN181600 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 18 Feb 84

[Text] Damascus — At 1430 today, President Hafiz al-Asad received Hasan 'Abedi Ja'fari, Iranian minister of commerce, accompanied by Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohsen Mujtahid, Majlis deputy and chairman of the Majlis Commerce Committee. Dr Salim Yasin, minister of economy and foreign trade, attended the meeting. Talks dealt with the situation in the region and some affairs of common interest. Ja'fari conveyed to the president the greetings of the Iranian president, prime minister, and Majlis speaker. The president accepted them with gratitude and asked him to convey similar greetings to the leaders of the Iranian state.

Departs 19 Feb

JN191652 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 19 Feb 84

[Text] Damascus — Iranian Minister of Commerce Hasan 'Abedi Ja'fari, and his delegation left Damascus for home this evening after a visit of several days to Syria. During the visit, the Iranian minister met with President Hafiz al-Asad, and held economic talks with the competent officials. A protocol for economic and trade cooperation between Syria and Iran was signed today at the Ministry of Economy and Foreign Trade.

Cabinet Reviews Regional Political Situation

JN201342 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 20 Feb 84

[Text] Damascus — At 1000 today, the Council of Ministers held a meeting under Prime Minister Dr 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm. At the beginning of the meeting, the Council of Ministers reviewed the current political situation in the region. The prime minister then explained the objectives of Arab and international meetings and contacts on the current developments. The prime minister asserted that Syria's principled position on the various issues, a position that is suppored by the Arab masses, becomes stronger as a basic principle for national militant forces, and for all pan-Arab strategy aimed at aborting capitulatory trends and hostile plans and at embodying the preparations to confront any aggression.

The Council of Ministers also discussed some aspects of the economic situation in regard to developing the positive principles of the national economy. The Council of Ministers also discussed matters related to the progress of plans and production in the government and the public sector.

Al-Ahmar, Delegation Leave for Bulgaria

JN201407 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1340 GMT 20 Feb 84

[Text] An Arab Socialist Ba'th party delegation led by 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, assistant Ba'th Party secretary general, left Damascus for Bulgaria this morning at the invitation of the Bulgarian Communist Party Central Committee. The visit falls within the framework of cooperation and friendship between the two parties. The delegation was seen off at Damascus International Airport by the members of the party's national command and the Bulgarian and the SFRY ambassadors in Damascus.

Planes Hit Targets South of Bhamdun 21 Feb

TA210900 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0853 GMT 21 Feb 84

[Text] This morning IDF planes attacked terrorist targets in the area of Mansuriyat south of Bhamdun. The planes also attacked in the area of Ayn al-Jadidah on the Beirut-Damascus road. All the planes returned safely to their bases. Four buildings which were used as headquarters and bases for the terrorists were attacked. As said, all the planes returned safely to their bases. This was an announcement of the IDF spokesman.

Lebanon Radios Cited

TA210920 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 21 Feb 84

[Text] IDF planes attacked terrorist targets this morning in the area of Mansuriyat south of Bhamdun, and in the area of 'Ayn al-Jadidah on the Beirut-Damascus highway. All the planes returned safely to their bases. The IDF spokesman reports that four buildings which were used as headquarters and bases for the terrorists were attacked.

The Christian radio stations in Beirut report that the Israeli IDF planes have been attacking terrorist targets in the areas of Bhamdun and 'Alayh since 1030. According to their broadcasts, there have been four waves of attacks so far, in each of which 10 planes participated while other planes shielded them. It was also said that in the bombarded areas there are raging fires, and that only a little anti-aircraft fire was directed at the planes. The broadcasts were monitored by Mikha'el Gurdus.

Army Spokesman on Raid

TA211124 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 21 Feb 84

[Report by Alan Ben-'Ami]

[Text] The Israeli army spokesman says four buildings were hit at Mansuriyah and at 'Ayn al-Jadidah near the Beirut-Damascus highway, buildings used as operations centers and headquarters for PLO terrorist groups. According to the Voice of Lebanon radio station, 10 Israeli jets carried out four bombings and strafing runs against the targets, with other planes flying cover. The Druze radio station, Voice of the Mountain, said Druze gunners in the area fired on the attacking planes. The Israeli army spokesman said all planes returned safely from the raid.

Defense sources say today's raid, the second in 3 days, does not signal stepped-up Israeli activity against the terrorists, but a continuation of Israeli policy to attack terrorist positions, keep them off balance and frustrate attempts to organize bases and operations. The raids also have a message for local Lebanese: Don't allow the terrorists into your area or let them pass through on their way south to Israeli positions.

The Army spokesman was not prepared to comment on reports from the Druze radio station that an Israeli armed force had crossed the Al-Awwali River to spend last night in the Al-Kharrub area, taking up positions on roads leading inland from the coast.

Israeli armored patrols have been crossing the Al-Awwali River on various occasions to travel through the coastal area checking out the situation on the ground and serving as a warning that Israel will take action if terrorists are allowed to return to the area. Currently, about 1,000 terrorists from pro-Syrian factions are estimated to be in the Ash-Shuf and Al-Matn areas around the Beirut-Damascus highway, but there are no indications that they have infiltrated in any sizable numbers south, toward the Al-Awwali River.

Sources on IDF Patrol North of Al-Awwali

TA190738 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 19 Feb 84 p 1

[Report by the defense correspondent]

[Text] An Israeli force of four tanks and eight armoured personnel carriers yesterday crossed the river and made its way to the southern banks of the Ad-Damur River in what military sources in Tel Aviv termed a "routine patrol."

The sources said the patrol was not involved in any clashes and returned behind Israeli lines.

Such patrols will continue, the sources added.

The advance in an area held by Phalangist militiamen, may have been designed as a signal to the Druse not to occupy the road.

Last week Druse fighters occupied the hills controlling the plain after the Lebanese Army's Fourth Brigade collapsed there.

Reports from Beirut said yesterday that the Druse had refused an IDF request to enter Druse-controlled territory, as well. But military sources in Tel Aviv said last night there had been no intention to enter the Druse-held area.

VOL Report on Movement North of Al-Awwali Denied

TA200734 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0728 GMT 20 Feb 84

[Text] In answer to a question, the IDF spokesman denies a report by the Voice of Lebanon radio station that an Israeli armored column crossed the Al-Awwali River last night in the direction of Ad-Damur. VOL claimed that this column included 42 armored personnel carriers, 10 tanks, and trucks full of arms. The IDF spokesman told our correspondent that the IDF has not acted north of the Al-Awwali River since yesterday.

Government Source on 'Terrorists' Movements

TA191458 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1449 GMT 19 Feb 84

[Text] A government source has stated that IDF patrols in the Ad-Damur area are part of ongoing activity by the IDF against the terrorists, and cannot be interpreted as interference in fac-

tional warfare in Lebanon. As for the rumors of terrorists having moved southward, in the direction of the IDF lines, the source said that the Druze have a vested interest in not allowing the terrorists to operate from their territory. From the statements made by this government source, it transpires that reports of terrorists moving southward were exaggerated. This report came from our political correspondent 'Oz Frankel.

IDF Sources Comment on 19 Feb Air Force Bombing

TA201035 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 20 Feb 84
pp 1, 11

[Report by 'Immanu'el Rozen, Ilan Kfir and Shefi Gabay]

[Excerpt] Scores of terrorists were staying in the building which was bombed by the Israeli Air Force in Ad-Damur yesterday. They had arrived there 10 days ago together with the Druze forces that took over control of the area from the Lebanese Army's 4th Brigade.

The IDF took over Ad-Damur from terrorist hands on the fourth day of the Peace for Galilee war. Last week the Druze took it over with the aid of terrorists from various organizations. At the end of the fighting, several dozen terrorists established themselves in a deserted industrial structure about 1.5 km east of Ad-Damur. It is this structure that was bombed by the Air Force yesterday.

IDF sources emphasize that the assault was not intended to help Amin al-Jumayyil in his present struggle, and should be viewed as part of the overall policy of acting against terrorists wherever they are. The moment a new situation had developed and Ad-Damur had become a residence of terrorists, it became a target for an Air Force attack, the sources said.

Israel, so it seems, set "a red line" for Syria and the terrorists south of Ad-Damur.

A senior political source in Jerusalem said yesterday that the attack by the Israeli Air Force in the Syrian-controlled Hammana region as well as the bombing of the structure used by the terrorist organizations in the Ad-Damur area were intended to signal to Syria and to the pro-Syrian "coalition" forces in Lebanon (the terrorists, the Druze and the Shi'ites) that Israel will not allow the terrorist organizations to return and set up an operational infrastructure for anti-Israeli activities in southern Lebanon.

Radio Reports Amal Denial of IDF Landing

TA201709 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 20 Feb 84

[Text] The Shi'ite organization Amal has denied reports broadcast by Christian radio stations in Beirut that the IDF has begun carrying out an operation against terrorist centers in the southern outskirts of West Beirut. According to the reports broadcast by the Christians, Israeli Navy boats bombarded these areas and the hills overlooking the entrances into West Beirut.

A broadcast monitored by our monitor Mikha'el Gurdus further told about large IDF patrols in the outskirts of West Beirut, and that the IDF has also begun landing forces near the camp of Al-Awaza'i. The Christians said in their broadcasts that eyewitnesses counted 12 Israeli tanks making their way to West Beirut. As said, the Shi'ite organization Amal has denied this report.

Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal reports that there is no information about any IDF operation in West Beirut or about the landing of troops from the sea.

Shamir Departs 19 Feb for EC Talks in Brussels

Holds Airport News Conference

TA190639 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0614 GMT 19 Feb 84

[News conference by Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir at Ben-Gurion Airport prior to leaving for Europe]

[Text] [Shamir] We will discuss with the EEC foreign ministers who will be in Brussels all the problems which are currently of interest to Israel and Europe. I will also meet with the prime ministers of the Netherlands and Belgium. We will discuss the international situation, bilateral relations, the situation in the Middle East and Israel's relations with these countries. I hope to return on Wednesday, God willing.

[IDF radio correspondent Yaron Deqel] Mr Prime Minister, do you think that, given that the situation in Lebanon may be graver than it has ever been before, now is the right time for the prime minister to make a 4-day trip abroad?

[Shamir] We are closely following all developments in the region, of course. Everything is being taken care of and Brussels in not far from Jerusalem.

[Television correspondent Yoram Ronen] Mr Prime Minister, I understand that you do not want hasty Cabinet decisions about an IDF redeployment in Lebanon. However, do you believe that after your return from Brussels the Cabinet will make a decision on this matter?

[Shamir] The Cabinet has discussed the developments and events in Lebanon. Everything that should be done in being done. The deliberations will also continue in the defense establishment during my absence and in the Cabinet after my return.

[Ronen] Mr Shamir, there were reports this morning that Israel has moderated its opposition to the Jordanian task force. Are we indeed less opposed to the establishment of this force?

[Shamir] There are deliberations being conducted on this today between us and the U.S. Government.

[Unidentified correspondent] Mr Prime Minister, will Israel demand the opening of parallel negotiations to the negotiations (?of Portugal and Spain with the EEC in order to maintain its economic interests with Israel)?

[Shamir] This is one of Israel's demands.

Deplores Lebanese 'Capitulation'

TA191134 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 19 Feb 84

[Text] Prime Minister Shamir says the Lebanese Government's submission to Damascus will not stop the Syrians from trying to seize complete control of the country. Shamir was speaking at Ben-Gurion Airport this morning, before leaving for talks in Europe with Common Market leaders. Among the reporters putting questions to the prime minister was Tony Gadot:

[Begin recording] [Gadot] Asked whether Israel sees the Israeli-Lebanese agreement as still being in effect following President Amin al-Jumayyil's formal acceptance of the Saudi Arabian eight-point peace plan, Shamir said that Israel will not accept the unilateral abrogation of any agreement between Israel and another country.

[Shamir] I believe the agreement is formally still existing, but we deplore that all the gestures of capitulation from the Lebanese Government do not change the determination of the Syrians to get a full domination of Lebanon. We will never accept a unilateral abrogation of an agreement signed by us and another country. We will never accept the abrogation of this agreement.

[Gadot] As to whether Israel has any plans to close its liaison office near Beirut:

[Shamir] So far the situation in this regard is the same, without any change.

[Gadot] Shamir refused to comment on whether Israel has warned the Druze not to continue their operation south of the town of Ad-Damur and would only say this:

[Shamir] We are making efforts to prevent the terrorists from coming near to our northern border.

[Gadot] Finally, asked if Israel has received any assurances from the United States that the proposed American-trained Jordanian fast deployment force will not be used against Israel, the prime minister said:

[Shamir] Discussions between us and the U.S. Government are going on on this subject.

[Gadot] During Shamir's absence Deputy Premier David Levi will act as prime minister and chair today's Cabinet meeting. [end recording]

Comments on Lebanon Bombings

TA200656 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 20 Feb 84 p 3

[Telephone report from Brussels by Arnon Yafe]

[Excerpt] "The objective of the Air Force bombings in Ad-Damur and Bhamdun is to warn the Druze and Shi'ites not to allow the infiltration of PLO forces into the areas under their control in southern Lebanon," Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir who arrived here yesterday for a series of talks with European foreign ministers in Brussels said to us.

Shamir bitterly complained about the abrogation of the Israeli-Lebanese agreement. He explained that "when we entered the war with Lebanon the initial goal was to drive the Syrians and the PLO away, and at the same time, to give the Lebanese an opportunity to restore their independence; but they have missed it."

Shamir will meet this morning with French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson for a talk which will be entirely dedicated to the Lebanese crisis. Shamir said France is now betting on Shi'ite leader Nabih Birri in Beirut, "but he may prove to be an ephemeral phenomenon since leaders keep emerging and disappearing in Lebanon. We are aiming at good relations with all Lebanese."

In the talks with Cheysson and with West German Foreign Affairs Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher, Shamir will emphasize that "the root of evil" in Lebanon is Syria's aspirations. All concessions Al-Jumayyil will make to the Syrians will invite further blackmail.

Further Reportage

For Hamburg DPA and Israeli reportage on the visit to Brussels by Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, including his meetings with French External Affairs Minister Claude Cheysson and FRG Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher, as well as his address to the EC Council of Ministers, see the European Community section of the 21 February Western Europe *DAILY REPORT* and subsequent issues.

Arens Discusses Lebanon Situation 16 Feb

TA181020 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0815 GMT 18 Feb 84

[Interview with Defense Minister Moshe Arens by Yosi 'Abadi and Yitzhaq Ben-Ner in the defense minister's office on 16 February — recorded]

[Excerpt] ['Abadi] Mr Defense Minister Moshe Arens, to what degree can the latest developments in Lebanon be seen as a victory for Syria and the restoration of Syrian control in Lebanon to the level preceding that of the Peace for Galilee campaign?

[Arens] The elements fighting against the central government, against President al-Jumayyil, are first and foremost the Druze and Shi'ites. However, one cannot ignore the fact that they enjoy the support of the terrorists, of the PLO, and primarily of the Syrians. So, it would be correct to say, I believe, that this victory of the Shi'ites and Druze also constitutes a victory for the Syrians. Does this restore the same degree of Syrian control over Lebanon as existed before the Peace for Galilee campaign? The answer to this is negative. Prior to the Peace for Galilee campaign the IDF was present in a narrow strip along the Israeli border while today the IDF is present in Jazzin, Sidon, Jabal al-Baruk, Rashayya, Hasbayya, and elsewhere. The IDF today is present

in a larger area containing a considerable population; it is not half or a quarter of Lebanon, but it is a significant zone of Lebanon. It is southern Lebanon, and it is we who control it, not the Syrians — neither now nor in the future.

[Ben-Ner] Mr Defense Minister, the agreement with Lebanon lacks any importance in fact. It has not been implemented — at least by the Lebanese Government — in the course of the 9 or 10 months since it was signed. What will irritate us about its abrogation, really? Will it be the symbolic point, the point of precedent, or what?

[Arens] I would not attach too much importance to the symbolic aspect, except in one sense; it is important in the long run, at least. This is the second case in which Israel signed an agreement with an Arab country. The first time we signed an agreement with Egypt, while the second time we signed an agreement — the one with Lebanon dated 17 May — which is not a peace treaty indeed but is an agreement nevertheless. Some people in Israel have doubts about the stability of these agreements, that is, to what degree we can rely on the signature of the Arab government which signs the agreement. If the Lebanese Government abrogates this agreement, this will definitely not be a positive precedent. It does not bode well regarding the future.

Practically speaking though, the implementation of the agreement depended on two things: a) That there will be a Lebanese Government and that it will have an Army with the ability to implement the security arrangements and guarantee that anti-Israel terrorist acts are not perpetrated from southern Lebanon; and b) That the Lebanese Government will want to do so, to stand behind this commitment. As things seem today, neither of these conditions have been met. There is no Lebanese regime which is willing to do so, nor is there a Lebanese regime which is capable of doing so even it were willing.

[Ben-Ner] Former Chief of Staff Refa'el Eytan was quoted this week as saying that without a permanent Israeli presence in the region, no security can be achieved. You this past week talked of security zones in southern Lebanon. Could you please explain what these zones are and whether we have to be present there ourselves — namely, whether the IDF has to remain in Lebanon for the foreseeable future?

[Arens] The security zones are those areas which, were they controlled by hostile elements, terrorist acts could be perpetrated against the Galilee. We often say, and justly so, that borders cannot be hermetically sealed and that even when the IDF is present in the region, it is impossible to absolutely guarantee that a shell or a Katyusha will not fall on our northern settlements. However, it is clear to us — we have learned this from the experience accumulated over the last year and a half — that when the IDF is in control of the area, it is very difficult to infiltrate and to shell the Galilee. Therefore, the security areas will be those that, were they controlled by hostile elements, would pose dangers and problems. Does this mean that the IDF has to remain in the areas we control today for an indefinite period of time? I would not say so. This area is principally populated by Shi'ites, but it also includes Christians and Druze, and there is no conflict of interests between us and these various groups. We hope we will be able to reach a dialogue with this population, and that in due course we will be able to reach a situation in which this population or its leadership will undertake responsibility for policing activities in the region as well as the responsibility of preventing terrorist activities from this region.

[Ben-Ner] Would you rely on them, Mr Defense Minister, after the Christians have proven to be an unreliable element and the Druze with their recent battles are not exactly cooperative?

[Arens] One should not jump to conclusions. We have learned already it is very difficult to predict what will happen in Lebanon. We have experience both with Christians and with Shi'ites in the framework of Haddad's units, and this experience has been a rather good one for a relatively long period. So, I would not dismiss this possibility. First, we are interested in it. We are prepared to invest a great deal of effort in this possibility so that we could reduce the IDF's burden. We will work on this and hope we will succeed. As long as we are unsuccessful, as long as we are not certain we have found the solution, the IDF soldiers will have to fulfill this task.

['Abadi] In case of lack of cooperation on their part, will the IDF have to remain in southern Lebanon for years?

[Arens] I hope not. Again, it is difficult to foresee events and developments in the Middle East. As I said we will invest a lot of resources, thought, and energy in an attempt to build local frameworks which will be able to deal with policing activities. We have one such framework — the southern Lebanese Army — and we will try to set up additional frameworks.

[Ben-Ner] It seems that the image depicted inside Israel and throughout the world is that of a confused Israel which does not know exactly how to react to the frequent, rapid changes in situations in Lebanon. Do you disagree with this?

[Arens] It is unnecessary to react to everything. If you are pointing to the fact that the situation is complex, this is true indeed. We can ask ourselves, for example, whether the Lebanese are Israel's friends. The answer to this is that many Lebanese are Israel's friends. However strange this may sound, I estimate that surely more than half the Lebanese are friendly to Israel. In my opinion, it is much more than 50 percent, it is the majority, or, as it is termed in English, the silent majority [last three words in English]. However, the problem we are facing is that in today's Lebanon, there are two ethnic armed groups — the Druze and Shi'ites — that have proven to have considerable military abilities in the Lebanese arena vis-a-vis the Lebanese Army. These two groups are not Israel's enemies; there is no conflict of interest between them and us, on the contrary. The Shi'ites are a population which lives and will continue to live north of Israel's border. They will be our neighbors, as always...

[Ben-Ner, interrupting] You have these days talked about Junblatt who may emerge or appear to be Israel's enemy under certain conditions.

[Arens] This is what I just wanted to say. These groups with their militia and military power in the area are not Israel's enemies; they are not hostile to us. We too have no hostility toward them, on the contrary. However, it is correct that they today enjoy the

support of elements that are indeed hostile to Israel; the terrorists and Syria. This is a delicate situation. If you asked me whether we know how to react, I would say we should be careful with our reaction. On the one hand we do not want to push them into the camp of our enemies, while, on the other hand, we must warn them that if this aid they are receiving will develop into some sort of alliance between them and Israel's enemies which will be directed against Israel, they will have then transfered themselves into the camp of our enemies.

['Abadi] If the policy is to wait until these elements in Lebanon express their support for Israel in such a way that will enable us indeed to base the security arrangements on them, is it not worthwhile to prepare the public, the Israeli people, for the possibility of a long stay in Lebanon? Such a matter may well take longer than the public may think is necessary.

[Arens] I think you are right. To the extent that preparation is necessary, I would expect and hope that the majority of the Israeli public is aware that our presence in Lebanon today is a link in a long chain which should be called the campaign over the northern border, over the security of the northern residents, the Galilee residents. This is not a campaign which started yesterday, nor can it be assumed it will end tomorrow.

Arens Says Terrorists Returning to Beirut

TA191719 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 19 Feb 84

[Text] Defense Minister Moshe Arens has said that the terrorists are definitely returning to Beirut, and some of them have even joined the Druze in their war against the Lebanese Army. Interviewed in the ABC program "This Week," the defense minister said that Israel would exert pressure on the Druze not to permit PLO members to move south. Arens reiterated that Israel would hold onto southern Lebanon as long as there is not a strong central government in Lebanon capable of guaranteeing that Israel's northern border is not attacked. He also reiterated Israel's opposition to the Reagan plan, and added that the Lebanese experience only strengthens our arguement that the problem is not one of returning territories, and that it is clear to us that giving up areas in Judaea and Samaria would endanger our security.

Kimche Discusses Lebanon Issues During Japan Visit

OW170917 Tokyo KYODO in English 0900 GMT 17 Feb 84

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 17 KYODO — Israel's top diplomat warned Friday there would be "no happy ending" to the fighting in Lebanon, despite reported acceptance by the Lebanese president of an eight-point peace proposal scrapping Lebanon's agreement with Israel on troop withdrawal. Israeli troops would continue to occupy southern Lebanon and would not hesitate to act to protect their country if a threat to Israel's security arose, the diplomat said. Dr. David Kimche, director general of the Israeli Foreign Ministry and chief negotiator of the May 17, 1983 agreement with Lebanon on Israeli troop withdrawal, was speaking at the foreign correspondents' club here. He is in Tokyo for talks with Japanese Foreign Ministry officials.

Kimche said President Amin al-Jumayyil's reported acceptance of a Saudi Arabian plan to end fighting between the Lebanese Army and Syrian-backed dissident groups was "a great defeat" for the people of Lebanon.

"It is a great defeat for a country which tried to gain its independence, and by this abrogation (of the agreement with Israel) has failed," Kimche said.

He said the real victors were the neighboring Syrians, who would now control the Lebanese Government from behind the scenes, and the Soviet Union, Syria's military backer.

"From this point of view, the Soviet Union has gained," Kimche said, while the United States — which recently began "redeploying" U.S. Marines, part of a four-nation peace-keeping contingent in Beirut, to positions on U.S. battleships offshore — had "lost a certain amount of credibility."

The U.S. troop movement has been widely interpreted as a withdrawal in the face of terrorist assaults which caused heavy U.S. casualties in Beirut and strong pressure at home, in a U.S. presidential election year, to disengage U.S. troops.

News reports Thursday said Al-Jumayyil agreed to an eight-point peace plan calling on him to abrogate the U.S.-mediated agreement on Israeli troop withdrawal in exchange for Saudi and Syrian support in arranging a truce among warring Lebanese political and religious factions and a U.N. peace-keeping force to replace the present U.S., French, British and Italian Multinational Force.

The plan also calls for negotiated withdrawal of Israeli and Syrian forces from Lebanon, the reports said.

But Kimche warned any agreement reached by "Syrian threats and open blackmail," was doomed to fail, saying Druze and Shi'ite Muslims now fighting together in Lebanon had different aims and there would be little hope of achieving stable government there.

"Israel wants peace — but not the peace of a graveyard," Kimche warned. He said Israel would maintain its presence in southern Lebanon, and "if we find we have to take further action, in the wake of abrogation of the (troop withdrawal) agreement, to defend the security of our people, we will do so without hesitation."

Dr. Kimche later met Japanese Deputy Foreign Minister Toshijiro Nakajima at the Foreign Office and discussed the Lebanese situation, officials said.

At the meeting, Nakajima called for restraint and cooperation by Israel to stabilize the situation in Lebanon, they said.

Kimche reportedly told Nakajima Israeli troops would continue to be stationed in southern Lebanon.

He was quoted as having said the troops would be withdrawn at any time that terrorist and other threats to Israel ceased but that the present situation does not allow it.

As for the reported action by Lebanon to abrogate the agreement with Israel, the diplomat accused the Lebanese Government of having yielded to pressure from Syria, according to the officials.

Cabinet Ends Meeting, Meridor Makes Statement

TA191205 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1145 GMT 19 Feb 84

[Report by political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer from prime minister's office in Jerusalem]

[Excerpt][Schiffer] The Cabinet meeting has ended. As expected it discussed the Lebanese issue. Today too no decisions were made regarding the way the Israeli Cabinet will act in the future in view of the possible fall of Amin al-Jumayyil and in view of the abrogation of the Israeli-Lebanese accord. This discussion will continue. Let us first listen to the Cabinet statement read by Cabinet Secretary Dan Meridor:

[Begin recording] [Meridor] In the weekly Cabinet meeting the defense minister reviewed the latest developments in Lebanon and replied to ministers' questions on this matter. This part of the Cabinet meeting was defined as the meeting of the Ministerial Committee on Security Affairs.

The Cabinet today held a discussion on the condition of agriculture. This discussion was initiated by Labor and Social Welfare Minister Aharon Uzan who opened it. He was followed by the agriculture minister and other ministers. At the end of the discussion it was decided that this issue will be discussed in detail by the Ministerial Committee on Economic Affairs which will hold future deliberations on the issue and, once concluded, the matter will be returned to the Cabinet plenum for decision. So far these were the main issues raised in today's Cabinet meeting.

[Schiffer] Prior to the statement we asked Dan Meridor a few questions. In light of everything that is taking place in Lebanon, when is the Cabinet supposed to make decisions on this matter?

[Meridor] I do not know of disagreements in the Cabinet regarding making decisions on the situation in Lebanon. We are doing in Lebanon what we think should be done today. The discussion on the Lebanese issue which we started last week has not ended, as I have informed you, and it will be continued soon. I cannot talk of decisions, whether decisions will be made or not.

[Schiffer] Will you be able to sum up the Cabinet's stance or what is viewed as the solution to the problems, in view of what is happening in Lebanon?

[Meridor] I cannot sum up the Cabinet's position as reflected in recent deliberations; as you know, the deliberations have not ended yet. However, I think that the Cabinet's position regarding Lebanon is clear. On the one hand we insist on the 17 May agreement with Lebanon. We have not changed our opinion regarding this agreement. However, we will do everything necessary to restore security to the Galilee as was the case since the beginning of the Peace for Galilee campaign— namely, appropriate security arrangements, if possible as we wanted in the 17 May agreement with the Lebanese Government. But if this agreement is not implemented, then we will have to take care of security arrangements in southern Lebanon. These are the subjects which preoccupy the government and it is dealing with them.

[Schiffer] Dan Meridor said Israel will do everything necessary regarding Lebanon. [end recording]

Meridor on Terrorist Infiltration

TA191240 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1223 GMT 19 Feb 84

[Text] Cabinet Secretary Dan Meridor says that reports to the effect that terrorists are returning to areas adjacent to IDF-controlled areas in Lebanon are largely exaggerated. In answer to a question on this issue the Cabinet secretary said he would not elaborate on this. He spoke with correspondents at the end of the Cabinet meeting in which the developments in Lebanon and the condition of agriculture were discussed.

Ministerial Committee Approves Proposed Budget

TA201359 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 20 Feb 84

[Text] A short time ago, the Ministerial Committee on Economic Affairs approved the compromise proposal to update the state budget every 3 months according to the rise of inflation, the state's revenues, and the level of economic activity and unemployment.

Our economic affairs correspondent reports that the committee also approved the new budget law which amounts to over 4 trillion shekels. The budget will be submitted to the Knesset this Wednesday and, on the same occasion, the finance minister will deliver the budget speech where he will expound on his economic principles. The debate and the vote on the budget will be held next week.

Our correspondent Arye Golan reports that Knesset Speaker Menahem Savidor refused to hold the debate this Thursday in order to allow the Knesset members to get well acquainted with the budget.

U.S. Gives Guarantees on Jordanian Strike Force

TA190550 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 19 Feb 84

[Text] The United States has given Israel guarantees the Jordanian strike force which the Americans are planning to set up from Jordanian Army units will not be used against Israel. Voice of Israel Washington correspondent Razi Barqay says the U.S. Administration has decided on the type of weapons to be supplied to the Jordanian force in line with these guarantees. Details are included in a note sent by Washington to Jerusalem and the Administration is now awaiting the Israel Government's reply.

According to U.S. sources in Washington, Israeli officials in the American capital have approved the contents of the American

notes and have recommended to the Israel Government that it end its opposition to the proposed strike force. Political reporter Shim'on Schiffer says that the Israel Government's opposition to the strike force has been moderated as a result of the U.S. guarantees. The government will discuss the note at a future meeting but it has told the United States it continues to oppose a separate arms deal with Jordan which included the supply of Stinger anti-aircraft missiles.

U.S. Allows Use of Aid Funds for Lavi Project

TA180609 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 18 Feb 84

[Text] The United States has offically informed Israel it can use $250 million of the U.S. aid money for research and development of the Lavi project, including research and development work in Israel. The $250 million in question were allocated to Israel in the framework of the 1984 budget. Israel was informed of this in a meeting held yesterday between U.S. Under Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger and Israeli Ambassador to Washington Me'ir Rosenne.

Our correspondent in Washington Razi Barqay notes that the Pentagon at the time claimed that these funds should not be usedfor this in Israel. U.S. aircraft-developing companies also objected to this use of the aid funds in Israel.

Our correspondent reports that in the meeting between Eagleburger and Rosenne it further transpired that the Americans will not pressure Israel into a withdrawal from Lebanon. Our correspondent in Washington notes that Syrian opposition to the Saudi plan has reinforced assessments in Washington that there is no chance for an internal political settlement in Lebanon. The people who hold this opinion believe that Lebanon will remain divided between Israel and Syria for a long time to come.

U.S. officials expressed to our correspondent concern about the fate of the large amounts of arms the United States sent to the Lebanese Army. The officials fear that the arms will ultimately reach the hands of military forces controlled by Syria. It seems that the United States will now stop sending arms to President al-Jumayyil and will settle for training the soldiers remaining in the Lebanese Army.

LIBYA

Demonstrations Reported at Jordanian Embassy

LD182129 Tripoli JANA in English 1845 GMT 18 Feb 84

[Text] Tripoli, Jumada al Awal 14, Feb 18, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Masses of Palestinians and other Arabs demonstrated here this morning to condemn the visit by the head of the Egyptian regime and King Husayn of Jordan to Washington and their meeting of conspiracy with the head of the U.S. Administration Ronald Reagan to undermine the Palestinian cause.

Demonstrators carried slogans which denounced the stands of both the Egyptian and Jordanian regimes accusing them of openly conspiring against the causes of the Arab nation and bargaining with the Palestinian cause. They also burned the flag of Jordan in front of the Jordanian Embassy in Tripoli, in protest over this visit undertaken with the purpose of announcing the surrender of both regimes to American policies and their acceptance of U.S. plans of conspiracy aimed at undermining the Palestinian cause and establishing a pseudo-Palestinian entity on the West Bank.

In a statement issued following the demonstration, the participants addressed their condemnation to the heads of both the Egyptian and Jordanian regimes for their conspiratorial activities in conjunction with the U.S. Administration aimed at implementing Reaga's project of surrender. The statement reaffirmed that their visit to Washington confirms their yielding to U.S. policies and is aimed at extending the scope of the Camp David conspiracy to liquidate the Palestinian cause. The masses also warned against the consequences resulting from the adoption of capitulationist policies and stressed that the dynamic forces in the Arab nation will not stand with hands tied in the face of the actions of treason aimed at imposing Zionist-imperialist hegemony over the Arab nation.

The angry masses called for the downfall of Yasir 'Arafat and for bringing him to trial before the Arab people accused of neglecting the Palestinian revolution and the Arab nation, and of adopting capitulationist tendencies as well as betraying the struggles of and sacrifices of the Palestinian people.

The statement said: We call upon the popular forces and all the honorable people in our Arab nation — especially in Palestine, Egypt and Jordan — to stand in the face of traitors and conspirators. These forces will follow up all the symbols of treason in the Arab homeland as they did with As-Sadat.

Arab Support for Saudi Lebanon Plan Scored

LD181434 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 18 Feb 84

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The Lebanese Government radio yesterday reported that Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil had phoned his foreign minister, Elie Salim, in Riyadh informing him of an eight-point Saudi plan for solving the Lebanese crisis. One of the points in the plan provided for security guarantees in southern Lebanon and the drawing up of a formula for guaranteeing Israel's so-called northern borders.

While political activities are now centering on these proposals and the attitudes of the various parties to the conflict toward them, some quarters have expressed support for these proposals.

In the face of this, we cannot but express our astonishment at the fact that some Arab countries have been resorting to such logic and put forward proposals which provide a flagrant recognition of the enemy — indeed, to go even further to the extent of providing for guarantees to protect the so-called Israeli borders. The enemy has been devoting all its capabilities to achieve this throughout the past years, following the capitulation of the Egyptian regime, the capitulation of Jordan, and the enemy's occupation of the Golan and his invasion of southern Lebanon.

If we are to look forward seriously to the Arab homeland's future and to the liberation of our usurped territories, we must stem the deterioration of the conditions facing the Arab nation and stand firm against the capitulationist plans by means of popular revolution and the force of arms.

The isolationist Phalangist forces have reaffirmed their adherance to the disgraceful Lebanese-Israeli agreement. This was contained in a statement they issued yesterday.

Students March on People's Bureau in London

NC190652 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 19 Feb 84

[Text] To consecrate the age of the masses and to consolidate the foundations of cordial relations among peoples, which are the real and permanent relations in revolutionary work, the student revolutionary forces in the British arena have marched on the Libyan Arab People's Bureau in London and have formed a provisional committee to run it in a revolutionary way.

The committee issued a statement on the occasion saying:
In response to the requirements of the advanced stage reached by the Great 1 September Revolution, and in escalation of the revolutionary work abroad in line with what is happening inside the Jamahiriyah, the revolution forces comprising the students studying in Britain have marched on the People's Bureau in London and have formed a provisional committee to run it in a revolutionary way and to dedicate all capabilities to revolutionary work before all else.

The statement said that in doing this, the revolution forces take into consideration the Libyan people's desire to establish genuinely cordial relations with the British people.

The statement explained that in order to establish new relations on new bases, the revolution forces find that it is necessary to abandon the traditional ways in establishing relations. Those who want to deal with us must cooperate with us as a revolution having principles that cannot be conceded or compromised. They must define their dealings accordingly, on this basis.

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Khomeyni Envoy, Message

LD191001 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0700 GMT 19 Feb 84

[Text] Tripoli, 19 Feb (Jan) — The brother leader of the revolution yesterday received the ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Jamahiriyah, who handed him a message from Imam Khomeyni.

Further on Meeting

GF191239 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 19 Feb 84

[Text] The ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran met with Libyan leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi in Tripoli last night and held talks with him on bilateral relations and the current developments in the region.

During this meeting, the Libyan leader affirmed his special interest in Imam Khomeyni and the Islamic revolution in Iran, and reiterated the aid and support of the Libyan revolutionary people and government to the legitimate and firm stance of the Islamic Republic of Iran toward the Saddamist regime.

SUDAN

Egypt's 'Ali Arrives With Message to Numayri

JN191812 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1550 GMT 19 Feb 84

[Text] Khartoum, 19 Feb (SUNA) — President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri today received a message from his brother President Husni Mubarak. The message reviews the results of President Mubarak's recent tour of Morocco, France, and the United States. It also deals with the opinions that were expressed during the tour regarding the important issues in both the African and Middle East arenas, and the Palestinian and Lebanese issues in particular. It also touches on the talks that took place with regard to these issues.

Kamal Hasan 'Ali, Egyptian deputy prime minister and foreign minister, who arrived in Khartoum today on a short visit, delivered the message to President Numayri during their meeting here today. Foreign Minister Muhammad Mirghani Mubarak attended the meeting.

Asked by SUNA about the conspiracy to which the country's southern region is being exposed, Kamal Hasan 'Ali affirmed that Egypt will strongly support fraternal Sudan against all conspiracies aimed at undermining stability and the citizens' security in southern Sudan.

Regarding Egypt's role in establishing peace in the Horn of Africa, 'Ali pointed out that the recent visit of Dr Butrus Ghali, Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs, to the region was aimed at paving the way for finding understanding and stability between the neighboring countries. He expressed his belief that Egypt will continue this mission. 'Ali also said that during Dr Butrus Ghali's recent visit to the Horn of Africa, an agreement was reached on arranging a meeting between Foreign Minister Muhammad Mirghani Mubarak and the Ethiopian foreign minister in the near future. During the meeting, the two ministers will exchange views on the events that are taking place on the border with the aim of settling them.

'Ali also touched on the joint Egyptian-French peace plan concerning peace in the Middle East, asserting that the plan concentrates on the Palestinian question and deals with recognizing UN Resolutions 242 and 348. The plan also calls for mutual recognition between the Palestinians and Israel, and Israel's recognition of Palestinian self-determination.

30 'Rebels' From Nile Tug Attack Reported Killed

EA172029 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1930 GMT 17 Feb 84

[Text] Major General 'Abd ar-Rahman Muhammad Hasan Siwar ad-Dahab, deputy commander in chief of the peoples armed forces, has stressed that the Armed Forces have full control over all positions in the southern regions from which the rebels [khawarij] have attempted and continue to infiltrate to commit their acts of sabotage and crimes.

His excellency said in a press statement delivered today that our Armed Forces have inflicted upon the rebels who attacked the tug *Hijrinja* last Monday (13 February) 30 dead, and have captured the weapons and the ammunition which they left behind after their escape. About the recent attack on the oil exploration sites and at the site of Jonglei canal, his excellency said no guard had been placed on these sites before, per the request of the companies operating them. However, after the occurrence of the treacherous attack on these sites, a close guard has been imposed on them. His excellency added that all necessary steps had been taken to secure the river transport traffic which was now proceeding normally.

General Siwar ad-Dahab stressed that the Armed Forces would always remain the homeland's protective armor against all dangers, and that they were capable of protecting the country and preserving its national unity.

16 Reported Missing

JN181525 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1415 GMT 18 Feb 84

[Text] Khartoum, 18 Feb (SUNA) — The latest reports received by the Transportation and Communication Ministry say that the People's Armed Forces have rescued the crew of the steamer *Hajlijah*, which was the target of an armed attack by some outlaws on Monday at the eastern bank of the White Nile at Waskij point. The crew numbered 33 seamen, technicians, and workers. However, one health service worker and one policeman are still missing.

Announcing this today, a responsible source in the ministry added that all the passengers were rescued except for 14 passengers who are reported missing. He indicated that a woman with five children was found and rescued at the scene of the incident.

The source pointed out that steamers resumed carrying pas-

sengers and goods to the southern regions today under the protection of the People's Armed Forces.

Army Commander Views Situation in South

JN181004 Khartoum SUNA in English 0925 GMT 18 Feb 84

[Text] Khartoum, 18 Feb (SUNA) — The People's Armed Forces have inflicted heavy losses on the outlaws who attacked a steamer in southern Sudan last Monday, and the army is now in full control of all the areas from which outlaws infiltrate into southern Sudan, Deputy Commander-in-Chief Ath-Thahhab announced yesterday.

In a press statement, he was quoted as saying that the army inflicted heavy losses on the outlaws, killing 30 of them and capturing weapons and ammunition they left behind after being chased by the army troops. The army is now in control of all the areas in southern Sudan from which outlaws try to carry out their criminal and sabotage activities, he said. He indicated that oil fields and the Jonglei canal scheme are now strictly guarded by the army, and all measures have been taken to secure river transportation in the southern regions.

In the past, we did not put guards at those sites because the companies operating there asked us not to do so, he announced.

People's Assembly Condemns Violence in South

EA171530 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1930 GMT 16 Feb 84

[Text] The National People's Assembly issued a statement today, following an extraordinary session devoted to a debate on conditions in the country's south.

The statement stressed the ability of the Sudanese people of every region to overcome this unexpected ordeal, to devise the best solution for it, and to repel the intrigues of enemies. The statement condemned the recourse to violence in political activity and the carrying of arms with which to confront national problems.

TUNISIA

Education Minister Urges Teachers Not To Strike

LD210820 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 21 Feb 84

[Text] Secondary schools will remain open today for attendance by students and teachers, the majority of whom care about the interests of students and youth and adhere to the carrying out of their duties without any obstruction.

In an address last night, the minister of national education reaffirmed that the right to work was sacred. He called on the students to perform their duties, appealing to their consciences to place the interests of the homeland above personal interests.

Undoubtedly, the students' next of kin are disturbed and disappointed. Through the Family and Education Organization, which represents them, they have expressed their refusal to see schools and educational institutions turn into arenas in which some exercise their well-known aims at the expense of lessons and education, which is the fruit of great sacrifices that continue to be borne for the sake of future Tunisian generations.

Minister Mohamed Fredj Chedli said at the start of his address that the trustees [qayyimin] trade union has postponed the strike originally scheduled for today, Tuesday, after they realized that the dialogue was still continuing and consequently there was no reason for the disruption of teaching.

The minister of national education then spoke of the strike of secondary schools teachers scheduled for today, Tuesday. He recalled that a lengthy meeting was held last Thursday between the Secondary Schools Teaching Staff Union and the Ministry of National Education, which ended with no resolution as to the meaning of the agreement between the two sides. Consequently, an expanded meeting was held last Saturday which was attended by the minister of civil service and administrative reform, the members of the Secondary School Teaching Staff Union, the chairman of the Tunisian Federation of Labor and the minister of national education, during which a fresh review was made of the agreement and a lengthy discussion took place of the teachers' demands. It transpired that there was some contradiction between the union's understanding of the agreement and that of the government. When members of the union insisted on their stand, the Ministry of National Education called for arbitration. But the Secondary Schools Teaching Staff Union rejected arbitration and insisted on its stand.

This provides a clear indication that the question was not one of trade unionist demands but was a political issue in both essence and content. It seems that the secondary school teachers are determined to go on with their strike decision.

The minister of national education seized the opportunity of his address, which was made over Tunisian television, to express his full confidence in the teachers. He affirmed that they had always made sacrifices and performed their duties of guiding their students on the road to spiritual education. He said: I appeal to their consciences to perform their duties to the best of their abilities and to place the interests of the homeland above personal interests. In this way, they would be listening to all arguments and acting upon the most correct of them, because students are their children and they wait for their teachers and lessons, particularly since students have nothing to do with this dispute. The students' hope is to find in their teachers a good role model from whom to seek advice.

If some differences exist, innocent students should not be embroiled in the problem. Indeed, they all must do all they can to perform their duties for them.

The minister of national education again called on the teachers to perform their duties and announced that the secondary schools will remain today open. He reiterated that the right to work was sacred.

'Unlawful' Strike by Postal Workers Reported
LD202338 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 20 Feb 84

[Text] A number of post office employees staged a strike on Monday morning despite the disapproval of their national union regarding this (?unexpected) action. Some of the employees gathered outside the headquarters of the General Union of Tunisian Workers (UGTT) and asked to see Habib Achour, president of the union, who refused to see them since their strike was unlawful.

ETHIOPIA

'High-Level' Soviet Naval Delegation Visits

NC180944 Paris AFP in English 0925 GMT 18 Feb 84

[Text] Addis Ababa, Feb 18 (AFP) — The commander of the Soviet Fleet in the Indian Ocean, Rear Admiral R.L. Dymov, arrived at the Ethiopian Red Sea Port of Massawa yesterday for a visit, reports here said. The rear admiral, who was heading a high-level Soviet Naval delegation, was greeted by the commandant of the Ethiopian Navy, Tesfaye Berhanu, the reports said. The two men reportedly discussed matters of mutual interest and concern in the region. It was not known how long the rear admiral would stay in Massawa, where the Ethiopian Navy has its headquarters.

Foreign Trade Minister On Agreement With PDRY

EA192120 Addis Ababa in English to Neighboring Countries 1530 GMT 19 Feb 84

[Text] Socialist Ethiopia and the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, PDRY, have signed an agreement for the joint undertaking of projects in the economic, technical, and trade fields of endeavor in 1984. Another accord was made in Aden to help accomplish six various projects between the two countries. This was disclosed by Comrade Wollie Chekol, Minister of Foreign Trade, on arrival here after attending the fourth joint commission meeting between Ethiopia and the PDRY. The minister said that during the week-long meeting, the joint accomplishments of the two countries were assessed and an action plan for future areas of cooperation. [as heard] During his stay in Yemen, the minister presented a message from Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam to PDRY leader Comrade 'Ali Nasir Muhammad.

KENYA

Security Forces Reportedly Kill 80 Persons

EA171507 Nairobi THE STANDARD in English 17 Feb 84 p 1

[Excerpts] At least 80 people have been killed by security forces in Wajir over the past week, the MP for Wajir West, Mr A.M. Khalif, alleged in Nairobi yesterday. Mr Khalif and the MP for Wajir East, Mr Abdi Mohamed Sheikh, urged the government to institute an immediate independent inquiry to establish why the people were being killed. Mr Khalif claimed he had witnessed incidents last Monday in which four people were shot dead and two others burned to death by the security forces. He claimed most of the dead were among thousands of people rounded up and confined at Wagalla airstrip, 9 miles from Wajir Town. The security forces were looking for bandits, he said. He claimed he received more information on Wednesday night that several other people had been shot dead.

The dead bodies are being dumped by the authorities at Tarbaj and Giriftu, 50 miles from Wajir Town, the MP claimed, adding that the authorities were preventing relatives and missionaries from burying the bodies. Meanwhile, the allegations of systematic persecution in Wajir was yesterday supported by about 30 residents from the area. The residents, who called at the *STANDARD* offices in Nairobi, claimed that apart from denying the local people and their livestock access to all watering points, the authorities used inhuman methods of torture.

SOMALIA

President Receives Italian Education Minister

EA191604 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1400 GMT 19 Feb 84

[Excerpt] Somalian President Challe Mohamed Siad Barre today received Italian Minister of Education Mrs Franca Falcucci and her delegation, currently on an official visit to Somalia, at the presidency here in Mogadishu. The delegation paid a courtesy call on the president, and during a cordial conversation, discussed matters relating to the strengthening of friendly cooperation and bilateral ties.

Foreign Minister Jama Barre in Italy for Talks

For reportage on Foreign Minister Jama Barre's visit to Italy, including his talks with Italian Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti, see the Italy & the Vatican section of the 21 February Western Europe *DAILY REPORT* and subsequent issues.

Mogadishu Reports on Yugoslav Visit Communique

EA172136 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1400 GMT 17 Feb 84

[Text] The Somali Democratic Republic [SDR] and Yugoslavia today released a joint communique on the visit to Somalia by a Yugoslav delegation headed by Dobroslav Culafic, a member of the Yugoslavia Presidency. The Yugoslav delegation visited the SDR from 12-17 February 1984.

While in the SDR, the Yugoslav delegation headed by Dobroslav Culafic, held official talks with senior SDR officials, led by the SDR's second vice president, Challe Hussein Kulmie Afrah. The talks, which were conducted in an atmosphere of complete friendship and understanding, centered on improving relations between Somalia and Yugoslavia and their two parties; international issues; and the role of the progressive forces in world affairs. The talks, which were held at the People's Hall in Mogadishu, also covered the international socioeconomic order, political matters, and enhancing bilateral cooperation.

The communique stresses the good intentions of the two sides with regard to the promotion and expansion of aspects favoring the interests of the two country's friendly peoples. It also discloses the readiness of the two parties to promote cooperation between their political and social organizations and bilateral relations in general. The communique particularly stresses bilateral economic ties and (?trade) exchanges.

The communique further expresses the two countries' extreme anxiety over the tension prevailing throughout the world,

stressing the great need to strengthen democratic and peace-loving movements and democratic progressive forces so as to surmount the current global crisis. The two sides also point out that the Nonaligned Movement could play a major role in defusing international tension.

The communique also stresses the right of every nation and country to self-determination without outside pressure or interference. The two sides said they will always support and affirm the principles of freedom, independence, sovereignty, equality, and the right of every nation and peoples to safeguard their own basic rights. The two countries' communique states that world peace is currently threatened by division, confrontation, and military interference throughout the world.

The communique stresses the importance of opposing all forces that in any way impede Africa's historic progress from colonialism.

Somalia and Yugoslavia point to the need for readjusting the social economic order and for democratizing international relations in the political and economic sectors, and for eradicating colonialism, neocolonialism, oppression, apartheid, and all types of colonialism [words indistinct].

The communique released today by Somalia and Yugoslavia also says that the policy of the Nonaligned nations is to establish and assure the rights of all nations to freedom, independence, sovereignty, and the right to choose their own destiny.

The two countries also stress in their communique the role of the Nonaligned nations in fighting imperialism, colonialism, neocolonialism, apartheid, and the forces of war and aggression. Somalia and Yugoslavia add that the outcome of the recent Nonaligned Summit in New Delhi expresses the hopes and aspirations of the international community to live in peace and stability. Somalia and Yugoslavia strongly believe that the unity of the Nonaligned nations can strengthen their role in the international community.

The two countries also discuss the current international arms race saying that ending it would not only help defuse international tension but will also promote international economic stability and social development, particularly in the developing countries.

The parties of the two countries also stress the need to build a new international economic order which can assure the growth of the developing countries' economies and their freedom of access to their natural resources. The two sides also highlight the importance of balancing the international economic order, which, they say, will enhance justice and democracy. The Somali Democratic Republic and Yugoslavia also favor and call for an end to international friction and misunderstandings through justice and peace initiatives, and suggest that all nations should always avoid aggressive policies which could exacerbate the tensions and crises prevailing in the world. They also say in their communique that they will play a leading role in defusing international tension and in striving for peace and stability. They also call for a peaceful solution to all forms of tension through international cooperation.

The communique released by the Somali Democratic Republic and Yugoslavia states that the two countries believe it is imperative to end the current tension and instability in the Horn of Africa through peaceful means. Somalia and Yugoslavia also touch on the importance of cooperation among progressive and democratic forces on a basis of equality, independence, and mutual respect.

The communique calls for the exchange of friendly visits by the leaders of the two countries and two parties.

Further on Visit, Communique

For Yugoslav reportage on the visit of a Yugoslav delegation to the Somalia Democratic Republic, headed by Dobroslav Culafic, a member of the Yugoslav Presidency, and the joint communique issued at the conclusion of talks, see the Yugoslavia section of the 21 February Eastern Europe *DAILY REPORT*.

Radio Halgan Claims Defections to DFSS Wing

EA202012 (Clandestine) Radio Halgin in Somali to Somalia 1800 GMT 20 Feb 84

[Excerpt] Reports reaching us from the 15th Gorod Division of the Democratic Front for the Salvation of Somalia wing of the Somali opposition forces say that 14 technicians and drivers have joined the ranks of the division. The group, which had been serving the Mogadishu regime's forces, defected by way of Balambal Region, part of the area liberated from General Siad Barre, and currently being held by the Democratic Front for the Salvation of Somalia. The defections took place on 16 February.

TANZANIA

Nyerere Greets Chernenko on Election

EA171914 Dar Es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 1700 GMT 17 Feb 84

[Text] Dar Es Salaam: Party chairman, Mwalimu Nyerere, has sent the new Soviet leader, Konstantin Chernenko, a congratulatory message on his election as secretary general of that country's Communist Party. In his message, Nyerere said that Chernenko's election to the post demonstrated the Soviet people's confidence in his leadership. He said the Russians have made major strides in economic and social development under the leadership of the CommunistParty despite the economic problems facing the whole world. The party chairman expressed his confidence that under Chernenko's leadership, the Soviet people would achieve even greater progress and that he would fully discharge the responsibilities entrusted to him by his countrymen. Mwalimu Nyerere stressed Tanzania's eagerness to continue cooperation with the new leader in maintaining and promoting the fraternal relations between the two countries. Chairman Nyerere wished Konstantin Chernenko good health and success in his leadership responsibilities.

BENIN

ANR Commissioners' Session Examines Proposals

AB202115 Cotonou Domestic Service in French 1930 GMT 20 Feb 84

[Excerpt] The people's commissioners at the National Revolutionary Assembly [ANR] has just concluded a 5-day extraordinary session. This first extraordinary session, which ended last Saturday, was partucularly devoted to first, an examination of the 26-point proposal for amending the Constitution of 26 August 1977; second, to the draft bill on the modalities for election and the number of people's commissioners to be elected to the ANR; and third, eight other proposals and draft bills regarding various socioeconomic sectors of our revolutionary state.

The amendment primarily concerns the duration of the ANR and the term of office of the president of the Republic which henceforth will be 5 years. Examining the second item on its agenda, the extraordinary session passed the draft bill according to which the country's next general elections will be organized on the basis of three principles: first, representation of the Beninese people at the ANR by socioprofessional categories and mass organizations; second, democratic consultations for the selection of candidates of all categories; and third, the adoption of a national list of candidates proposed by the Central Committee of our vanguard party, the People's Revolutionary Party of Benin.

CAPE VERDE

Offers To Monitor RSA-Angola Disengagement

AB181310 Paris AFP in English 1214 GMT 18 Feb 84

[Text] Praia, Feb 18 (AFP) — Cape Verde has not been asked to help monitor the disengagement agreement between South Africa and Angola, but would be honoured to do so if asked, the state radio said today, quoting a top Foreign Ministry official.

Reports in Washington ahead of the U.S.-sponsored talks in Lusaka this week, said observers from Cape Verde could be involved. The radio stressed that Cape Verde had no interests of its own to defend in southern Africa, and hoped that the present situation would lead to positive results.

The formerly Portuguese islands, off the west coast of Africa, hosted a first round of official talks between Angola and South Africa in December 1982, and U.S.-Angolan talks in January.

The radio said Cape Verde remained ready to play a part in any initiatives that the parties directly concerned considered useful. "The presence of neutral observers in the military disengagement zone could have a decisive importance for the consolidation of the results obtained so far, by creating a climate of confidence which would lead to a more advanced phase of negotiations," the radio said.

According to Western diplomatic sources in Lusaka, some U.S. personnel could be associated with the joint South African-Angolan monitoring commission.

LIBERIA

Doe To Consult Family Before Running for Election

AB181220 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 18 Feb 84

[Text][Passage indistinct] decision on the resolution presented to him by the people of Koko territory to run for the presidency in 1985, Commander in Chief Doe said he would consult his family for their advice before considering any request to run for the presidency.

In a 10-point resolution, the citizens say if the ban on politics is lifted, they will (?seek) head of state Doe's approval for his name to be carried on Koko's ballot as the only presidential candidate of their choice as the first president of the Second Republic.

MALI

Traore Departs for Working Visit in FRG

AB191330 Bamako Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 19 Feb 84

[Excerpt] The president of the Republic left Bamako this morning for Bonn, in the Federal Republic of Germany, on a friendly working visit. While in Germany, General Moussa Traore and his delegation will meet and hold talks with West German authorities.

NIGERIA

UK To Assist in IMF Loan Negotiations

AB170945 Lagos NAN in English 0925 GMT 17 Feb 84

[Text] Minna, Feb 16 (NAN) — The British high commissioner to Nigeria, Mr Hamilton Whyte, said today in Minna that the British Government would assist Nigeria in its current loan negotiations with the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

Mr Whyte, who was paying a courtesy call on the emir of Minna, Alhaji Ahamadu Dahago, described Nigeria's present economic depression as a short-term problem brought about by "rapid development and oil wealth". He said the problem should not be allowed to turn into a long-term one, adding that Nigeria was blessed with enough human and economic resources to develop a great future.

Earlier the emir had appealed to the British Government to assist Nigeria in her efforts to revive the nation's economy. The British high commissioner, who was on a 1-day visit to Niger State, later visited the 1st Mechanised Infantry Brigade of the Nigerian Army in Minna.

Talks in London on Refinancing Trade Debts

AB200720 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 20 Feb 84

[Text] Nigerian and British officials will begin talks in London today on the refinancing of Nigeria's short-term trade arrears on open account. The Nigerian delegation is being led by the minister of finance, Dr Onaolapo Soleye, while the British chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Nigel Lawson, heads his country's team. Last month, a delegation led by the permanent secretary in the Ministry of Finance was in London for similar talks with officials of the British Treasury, and those of the British Export Credit Guarantee Department. Dr Osoleye, who has been on an economic mission to some foreign countries, has already visited the United States.

While in the United States, members of the Nigerian delegation had talks with officials of the IMF, the World Bank, the (West) Export-Import Bank, and the Treasury Department.

Meanwhile, a team from the IMF is to visit Lagos next month to continue talks on Nigeria's request for a 1.7 billion Naira loan.

Ethiopian Head of State Arrives for Short Visit

Arrives From Andropov Funeral

AB171555 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 17 Feb 84

[Text] The Ethiopian head of state, Colonel Mengistu Haile Mariam, is now in Lagos for a brief visit. Col Mengistu, who is also the chairman of the OAU, flew in from Moscow today where he attended the funeral of the late Soviet leader, Mr Yuriy Andropov. He is scheduled to hold talks with the head of state, Major General Muhammadu Buhari, during his 45 minutes in the country.

Holds Talks With Buhari

AB180709 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 17 Feb 84

[Text] The Ethiopian leader, Lieutenant Colonel Mengistu Haile Mariam, made a brief stopover in Lagos today on his way home from Moscow. Our correspondent, Mohamed Okoradior, was at the airport where the Ethiopian leader had talks with the Nigerian head of state, Major General Muhammadu Buhari, and now reports:

[Begin Okoradior recording] Colonel Haile Mariam spent a little over 2 hours at the Murtala Mohamed Airport where he had talks lasting the better part of 1 hour with his Nigerian counterpart, Major General Muhammadu Buhari. The Ethiopian leader, who was on his way from Yuriy Andropov's burial in Moscow, had earlier touched down in Tripoli, Libya, spending about 1 hour on talks with Colonel Mu'ammar al-Quadhdhafi, an airport formality. This aspect makes the Ethiopian leader's itinerary important to pan-African aspiration mainly. [as heard] First, General Buhari had sent a representation to Colonel Haile Mariam as chairman of the OAU on the escalation of hostilities in Chad following the shooting down of a French plane there. There was the need, therefore, for the two African leaders to put their heads together to fashion out the next line of action over the situation in Chad, which has been a matter of great concern to the two countries.

Secondly, as the leader of one of the oldest sovereign nations in Africa, and current chairman of the OAU, Colonel Haile Mariam has the responsibility for meeting with African leaders and comparing notes on issues (?examined), and he explained this very well in his brief news conference after the (?audience).

Speaking in his country's official language, Amharic, the Ethiopian leader said his reason for stopping over was the long-standing excellent relations between Nigeria and Ethiopia. He explained that he was happy that there is a new administration in Nigeria. He wanted to take the opportunity to meet and know General Buhari, and to create an atmosphere for the intensification of existing relations between the two countries.

He noted that Nigeria is a member of the Bureau of the OAU, and has an important role to play in African affairs. So, he came over to consult General Buhari in this capacity.

Colonel Haile Mariam said one of the specific issues discussed was the Chadian problem to look for fresh avenues for solutions to be found [words indistinct]. When I asked him to conjecture reasons why the OAU seems so unable to solve the manifold problems of Africa, the Ethiopian leader noted that Africa was not existing in isolation but was part of a general human effort to develop society. So, whatever happens to other parts of the world affects Africa also, and so many of the happenings may have their origins from the sociological context. He went into history and pointed out that some 30 or 40 years ago, the people of Africa were engaged in struggles to attain political freedom from colonial rule to which they dedicated all their efforts. He believed that at this point in time, Africa was on her second phase of the struggle, striving to improve on its political sovereignty by restoring total social and economic stability. These Colonel Haile Mariam (?disclosed) were some of the reasons for conflicts which often attracted outside interests.

Colonel Haile Mariam is the third African leader to visit Nigeria in the barely 1 and 1/2 months of the new military administration, and all the leaders are people of stature in contemporary African politics — people like Ja'far Numayri of the Sudan and Ahmed Sekou Toure of Guinea. These are good omens that show the esteem in which Africa holds the new Nigerian leadership and the understanding to which they take the aspirations of the Nigerian Government and people, so very anxious to free themselves from the despondency of the maladministration of the past 4 years. [end recording]

Sudanese Envoy Brings Buhari Numayri Message

AB180645 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 17 Feb 84

[Text] The chief of staff, Supreme Headquarters, Brigadier Tunde Idiagbon, today at Dodan Barracks received the Sudanese ambassador to Nigeria, Mr (Kamar Umar al Amir). The ambas-

sador delivered a special message from President Ja'far Numayri of Sudan to Brigadier Idiagbon for the head of state, Major General Muhammadu Buhari. The chief of staff and the ambassador discussed matters of mutual interest between the two countries. They noted with satisfaction the increasing cooperation between Nigeria and Sudan.

Egyptian Delegation Arrives With Mubarak Message
AB201702 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 20 Feb 84

[Text] An Egyptian delegation has arrived in Lagos. The delegation is expected to deliver a personal message from the Egyptian leader, Mr Husni Mubarak, to the head of state, Major General Muhammadu Buhari.

Libya's Jallud Expected in Lagos 21 Feb
AB201538 Lagos NAN in English 1516 GMT 20 Feb 84

[Text] Lagos, Feb 20 (NAN) — The Libyan Prime Minister [title as received], Maj 'Abd as-Salam Jallud, is expected in Lagos tomorrow for a three-day official visit.

A program of the visit released today at Dodan Barracks shows that Maj Jallud will be met on arrival at the Murtala Mohammed Airport by the chief of staff, Supreme Headquarters, Brig Tunde Ididagbon.

The prime minister and his host will hold bilateral talks on Wednesday at the State House, Marina. According to the program, Maj Jallud will visit the National Museum, Onikan, and pay a courtesy call on the head of state, Maj Gen Muhammadu Buhari.

A communique is expected to be issued on Thursday before the departure of the prime minister.

Task Force To Monitor Developments in Chad
AB180950 Lagos International Service in English 0830 GMT 18 Feb 84

[Text] Nigeria has set up a task force to monitor developments in Chad. The minister of external affairs, Dr Ibrahim Gambari, says his ministry will also conduct a workshop on Chad next month. He said the workshop, which will be organized by the Nigerian Institute of International Affairs, will feature experts drawn from his ministry and the institutions of higher learning in the country.

He said the measures were part of the Federal Military Government's desire to bring about a lasting peace in Chad. The minister also said the Federal Government was watching with interest the developments in the Western Sahara, and that it would like to see a quick return to peace in that territory.

Army Warns Against Political Gatherings
AB170916 Lagos NAN in English 0908 GMT 17 Feb 84

[Text] Lagos, Feb 16 (NAN) — The Army today in Lagos warned against meetings with political intentions being held under the guise of religious gatherings or social parties.

In a statement, the Army Public Relations Department said that it had observed that social parties, to which former politicians were invited, provided a forum for political regrouping. The statement, therefore, reminded Nigerians that the ban on political parties and meetings was still in force and warned that violation of the ban would not be tolerated.

The statement, however, pointed out that religious worships at recognised places and bona fide social gatherings were not affected.

SENEGAL

Guinea, Guinea-Bissau Prime Ministers Stop Over
AB162155 Dakar Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 16 Feb 84

[Text] The prime ministers of Guinea-Bissau and Guinea-Conakry, Victor Saude Maria and Lansana Beavogui, made a short stopover today in Dakar. They were returning home from Moscow where they attended the funeral of President Yuriy Andropov. The prime ministers were welcomed by Armed Forces Minister Medoune Fall and Justice Minister Doudou N'doye. The two heads of government told Tidiane Barry [radio reporter] of their impressions of the trip.

[Begin recording] [Saude Maria] We have arrived from the Soviet Union where we represented our party and government at the funeral of President Yuriy Andropov. I don't think this is the appropriate time to make any political statement.

[Tidiane Barry] You have returned from the Soviet Union where you attended the funeral of President Andropov. What feelings did you get from the trip?

[Beavogui] A feeling of true compassion, because the poor friendly people of the Soviet Union have been hit with two cruel losses in less than 2 years. We attended the funeral of Leonid Brezhnev, secretary general of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the Supreme Soviet and head of state only 15 months ago, and again a few days ago, at the beginning of 1984, the Soviet people have been deprived of the first personality of their nation in the person of Yuriy Andropov. That is really a great blow, but one cannot do anything about destiny. We wanted to share the pain of our friends, explaining why the central authorities of the Democratic Party of Guinea selected me and my comrade, Dr Abdoulaye Barry, National Political Bureau member, to present our condolences to the Soviet people. [end recording]

TOGO

Reportage on French Presidential Adviser's Visit

Guy Penne Arrives in Lome

AB171530 Lome Domestic Service in French 1230 GMT 17 Feb 84

[Excerpts] Mr Guy Penne, adviser to the French president on African and Malagasy affairs, arrived this morning in Lome. He was welcomed at Lome-Tokoin International Airport by Mr Kpotivi Lacle, Political Bureau member and minister of the interior; Mr Gbegnon Amegboh, Central Committee member and minister delegate to the presidency in charge of information, posts, and telecommunications; and Mr Michel Chatelais, the French ambassador to Togo. Following the welcoming ceremony, Mr Guy Penne told the press of the importance he attaches to his visit to Togo.

[Begin Penne recording] You are aware that I have the habit of traveling here quite often to represent the president of the French Republic, and to convey fraternal messages and greetings from the president of the French Republic to General Eyadema. The purpose of this trip is to speak to General Eyadema on what France can do in terms of the support it can render Togo in certain fields of cooperation, and most importantly, to elicit General Eyadema's viewpoints on all problems concerning Africa, and to convey these to the president of the French Republic. [end recording]

Penne Meets With Eyadema

AB191315 Lome Domestic Service in French 1230 GMT 19 Feb 84

[Text] Guy Penne, French President Mitterrand's adviser for African and Malagasy affairs, is continuing his tour of our country. He went to Kara yesterday, where the city's militant population gave him an enthusiastic welcome on the esplanade of the Rally of the Togolese People's House. Folk groups were also present on the occasion.

Mr Penne met with President Eyadema in Kara during which both men had private talks followed by a banquet hosted by the head of state. The prefect of the Koza region hailed the visit as a demonstration of the excellent relations between Presidents Mitterrand and Eyadema. According to the prefect, Mr Penne's visit testifies to France's interest in our country, Togo, and will strengthen cooperative relations between the two countries. It will enable Guy Penne to better familiarize himself with our country.

The French official visited the game reserve on the (?Atiala) plains yesterday afternoon, and was scheduled to visit the village of Sangana in Kara this morning.

Penne on Talks

AB201716 Lome Domestic Service in French 1230 GMT 20 Feb 84

[Excerpts] Guy Penne, French presidential adviser for African and Malagasy affairs, left Kara this morning following a 3-day visit to Togo. The French presidential adviser made the following predeparture statements at Namtugu Airport.

[Begin recording] [Penne] I must say that this trip was an extraordinary one. In fact, my trips to Africa are usually very short; thus this is the first time since I began work as the French presidential adviser that I stayed so long in an African state.

[Unidentified reporter] During your stay you had two series of interviews with the founding chairman of the Rally of the Togolese People and president of the Republic, General Gnassingbe Eyadema, during which discussions centered on the economic and political problems facing Africa. What conclusions did you reach?

[Penne] With regard to bilateral relations my visit is a follow up to earlier visits I made to this country and to Charles Hernu's recent visit which dealt with military cooperation, for example. Also, Mr Nucci will come here very soon, which will make it possible to further examine the issues discussed during our last talks; that is, the improvement of economic cooperation. This visit is the first stage of a trip that will take me to Niamey in a few hours' time to meet President Kountche, and the day after tomorrow to a meeting with President Sekou Toure. Though we are living in a period when Africa is shaken by so many serious problems, we hope, for example, that the situation in southern Africa will improve. We, the French, pay attention to what goes on, and are convinced that our actions in this regard have contributed to detente. Similarly, we hope that the Chadian problem will cool down and the Chadians will be able to meet, understand each other, and discuss matters together. Before continuing this visit, it was important for me to visit Lome to hold talks with Gen Eyadema on behalf of the president of the French Republic. I have noted the advice he gave us and will convey it to Presidents Seyni Kountche and Sekou Toure, and obviously to the president of the French Republic. These are some of the important regional and subregional problems discussed during my talks with Gen Eyadema. [end recording]

UPPER VOLTA

Security Made Priority To 'Guard' Against Plots

AB191045 Paris AFP in English 1019 GMT 19 Feb 84

[Text] Ouagadougou, Feb 19 (AFP) — Upper Volta's ruling National Revolutionary Council, (NRC), led by Captain Thomas Sankara, has made security the regime's priority to guard against "destabilizing plots."

"We are more and more convinced that something is being prepared against the Upper Voltan revolution, and that the threat is getting bigger," the regime's second-ranking official, Blaise Compaore, said in a recent interview, six months after the radical organization took power in a coup. "We expect an offensive from

our enemies even if we do not know what form it will take," Captain Compaore said. "It might be attacks against individuals or something else." Capt Compaore, who is minister of state to the presidency and commander of the Commando training center at PO in the south of the country, added that the "Upper Voltan revolution was increasingly threatened by Upper Voltan refugees abroad, who are financed by counter-revolutionary groups." Capt Compaore, who played a major role in the coup last August that overthrew the regime of Jean-Baptiste Ouedraogo, declined to name any "refugee plotters abroad."

Joseph Ki-Zerbo, the leader of the banned Progressive Voltan Front, and Michel Kafando, foreign minister under the Military Recovery Committee for National Progress that ruled the country from 1980 to 1982, are often cited in official speeches and statements by ranking members of the NRC as enemies of the state.

The authorities of the Sankara regime are irritated by Paris's attitude to Upper Voltan refugees in France who are allegedly plotting against the Ouagadougou government. "One cannot talk about Franco-Voltan friendship when there are people on French soil who are acting against the revolution. We know the connections these men have between Paris, Abidjan, and other African cities. No one will make us believe that all that takes place without the knowledge of French authorities," Capt Compaore said. Capt Sankara made his dissatisfaction with France known through the French ambassador to Ouagadougou and through his foreign minister, Arba Diallo, who met French Minister for Cooperation and Development Christian Nucci in Paris on Thursday.

To thwart the alleged manoeuvres of "foreign enemies," the Sankara regime has engaged in a series of arrests in recent weeks. Jean-Baptiste Kafando, a former judge and brother of the former foreign minister-in-exile, was arrested at the beginning of this month, a reliable source said here. Captain Georges Boni Moussa and Captain Gaston Gnoumou Kani, who served in the 1980-82 regime, were put under house arrest in mid-January after their names had been cited during the corruption trials of officials of former governments.

Capt Sankara also told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE that several Army corporals had been arrested at the beginning of this month shortly before the official visit here of Flight-Lieutenant Jerry Rawlings, the leader of neighbouring Ghana, who is very close to the Voltan president. Capt Sankara said the corporals had been arrested because of their "attitude", but he did not say if there was a link to any [words indistinct].

The NCR has stepped up security measures throughout the country, and especially around the presidency and other public buildings here. Traffic movement in the area is strictly controlled during the day and banned at night. In sensitive zones, orders to open fire on anyone disobeying the regulations are strictly observed. Last Friday a man was gunned down for ignoring a command to stop.

During the visit of Flt Lt Rawlings, the extent of security measures surprised observers. The car in which the two presidents travelled was escorted at all times by an armoured car, and their route was heavily patrolled. All vehicles, including those of diplomats, were searched.

Reliable sources said that deliveries of weapons from Libya had been stepped up, and a number of cargo aircraft had flown in armoured cars. In addition, more than 100 Voltan soldiers had been sent to Libya for military training. Capt Compaore did not deny the report, but said the arms deliveries were justified because of increasing activity by the regime's enemies. It was unimportant that the weapons came from Libya, and if France had offered them, they would have been taken.

For the leaders of the NRC, the best policy is to show the people how to use arms, and elementary military training courses have started at PO under Capt Compaore's direction. However, the policy has its risks. In a meeting of support for [words indistinct] Ougadougou, a pupil of the Military Cadet School accidently let off a burst from a submachine gun, seriously wounding several people. Capt Compaore called the incident "regrettable", but added, "training the people to use arms is not the same as arming them." Only 150 civilian members of local Revolutionary Defence Committees and a "Popular Vigilance Brigade" are armed permanently, he said.

ANGOLA

Dos Santos Receives Message From Zaire's Seko

MB180855 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 18 Feb 84

[Text] Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, president of the People's Republic of Angola, received a personal message from Mobutu Sese Seko, Zairean head of state, yesterday afternoon. The message was delivered by (Mini Nadgira Ngimbi), director of the office of the chairman of the MPR, who has been in the country since yesterday.

The meeting was attended by Assuncao dos Santos, director of the office of the president.

UNITA Asserts Position on Cease-Fire Talks

MB190938 (Clandestine) Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese to Angola 0430 GMT 19 Feb 84

[Communique issued by Jonas Savimbi, president of the UNITA Central Committee on 12 February at "UNITA General Headquarters in the Free Territory of Angola"].

[Text] 1. The UNITA Central Committee most vehemently denies the accusations by the MPLA that UNITA is receiving support from the State of Israel. It also categorically denies that UNITA has training camps in neighboring independent African countries.

2. UNITA's relations with Arab countries are well known, and the ties of solidarity between it and those countries are so strong that they firmly withstand the slanderous speculations of the MPLA.

3. The MPLA has run short of arguments against the UNITA resistance, which has moved from Cuando Cubango to the northern provinces of Cuanza Norte, Luanda, and Uige, and is making a last-ditch effort to involve neighboring countries which have recognized the illegitimate and illegal Luanda regime in the struggle.

4. The UNITA Central Committee takes this opportunity to draw the attention of the powers involved in organizing a cease-fire in the southern part of our country, Angola, to the following undeniable facts:

a. These powers are dealing with a weak government which, despite the backing of 45,000 Cubans, is losing more ground to UNITA with each passing day.

b. They are dealing with a government isolated from the people, even including the people of northern Angola, who the MPLA claims are its unflinching supporters [reduto inexpugnavel].

c. They are dealing with a government incapable of reaching a decision on either war or peace, and effectively honoring any agreement which might be signed.

d. They are forgetting, because of the current expedient need, that any cease-fire in any part of Angola — particularly southern Angola — will never work without UNITA's participation. UNITA regards the MPLA, and no one else, as the only party it can deal with [interlocuto] in the civil war which is setting the country ablaze.

5. In view of the rapid pace with which these negotiatons are being held, so as to take advantage of the confusion which can overwhelm the minds of people at critical moments, UNITA is moving quickly to assert its postion in accordance with the nationalist ideal. The coming weeks will prove whether UNITA has a commitment [palavra] and can honor the commitment it made to the Angolan people and international opinion.

The struggle triumphs. United, we shall win.

General Headquarters of UNITA in the free territory of Angola on 12 February 1984, year of Anti-Cuban Patriotic Front.

General Dr Jonas Malheiro Savimbi, president of the UNITA and supreme commander of the Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola

BOTSWANA

Cuban Minister Ends Visit, Comments on Angola

MB180845 Gaborone Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 18 Feb 84

[Text] The Cuban deputy minister of foreign affairs, Mr Oscar Oramas, left Gaborone yesterday after a 3-day official visit to Botswana.

During his stay in Botswana, Mr Oramas, accompanied by the Cuban ambassador to Botswana who is based in Lusaka, Mr (Hariberto Sereodi), met the president, Dr Quett Masire; the minister of external affairs, Mr Archie Mogwe; and the minister of mineral resources and water affairs, Dr Gaositwe Chiepe.

Mr Oramas told reporters at the airport before his departure yesterday that discussions held with officials in Gaborone centered on matters of bilateral concern to Botswana and Cuba.

He said that the two countries were members of the Nonaligned Movement, and as such, exchanged views of issues of common interest. Mr Oramas said he was impressed about the way Botswana were prepared to go forward and consolidate its development in the face of the current vicious drought.

Commenting on the recent talks between South Africa and Angola, and whether Cuba will be prepared to call its troops from Angola, Mr Oramas said that Cuba and Angola made a joint declaration on February 1984, and as such Cuba will fulfill its engagement in Angola.

MOZAMBIQUE

High-Level RSA Delegation Arrives for Talks

Foreign Minister Heads Delegation

MB200841 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0800 GMT 20 Feb 84

[Text] South African Foreign Affairs Minister Roelof Botha, arrived in Maputo this morning heading his country's delegation to the talks with the People's Republic of Mozambique. The South African delegation arrived at Maputo Airport at approximately 0900, traveling in a South African airplane. The delegation was received by Minister in the Presidency for Economic Affairs Jacinto Veloso, who will lead the Mozambique delegation to the talks. Jacinto Veloso was accompanied by Justice Minister Oscar Monteiro, and National Defense Deputy Minister Sergio Vieira.

Roelof Botha leads a large delegation which includes Law and Order Minister Louis le Grange, and Defense Minister Magnus Malan. The two delegations left the airport for the offices of the Bank of Mozambique where the talks between the two countries will begin shortly.

Talks Begin in Maputo

MB201308 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 20 Feb 84

[Text] The talks between South Africa and Mozambique have begun in Maputo. The South African delegation, led by the minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, was welcomed at Maputo Airport by the Mozambique minister of economic affairs in the Presidency, Mr Jacinto Veloso. He was accompanied by the justice minister, Mr Sergio Vieira. [name and title as heard] Today's talks are likely to be a follow-up, in the main, of the meetings of the two working groups on 16 January in Maputo and Pretoria. Among the various matters which will probably be discussed, are the security situation in general, the presence of the ANC in Maputo, economic relations between South Africa and Mozambique, the Cahora Bassa scheme, tourism, and the question of nationalized South African property in Mozambique.

Our political correspondent reports that provided today's talks proceed without any hitch, the chances are good that the South African prime minister, Mr P.W. Botha, and President Samora Machel will meet personally at a later date. The South African delegation, which also included Mr Pik Botha's two Cabinet colleagues, Mr Louis le Grange and General Magnus Malan, and several other senior security, defense, and public service officials, returns to South Africa this evening.

Talks Enter 'Second Phase'

MB201628 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1600 GMT 20 Feb 84

[Text] Official delegations from Mozambique and South Africa this afternoon entered the second phase of their talks begun this morning. After a brief break, the two delegations resumed talks at about 1500, which continued behind closed doors. The meeting's working agenda includes an assessment of results achieved by the commissions established following last December's meeting in Mbabane, as well as the continuation of actions aimed at establishing peace, coexistence, and relations of good neighborliness between the two countries and in the region on the basis of international norms. There are still no details on the development of the discussions.

Maputo on Machel-Botha Meeting

Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1700 GMT 20 Feb 84

[Text] High-ranking talks between representatives of the governments of Mozambique and South Africa ended in Maputo late this afternoon. President Samora Machel received in audience Roelof Botha, South African foreign minister and head of that country's delegation, as well as Magnus Malan, the defense minister, and Louis le Grange, the minister of law and order [as heard]. During the audience, President Samora Machel reaffirmed our country's desire for stability, peace, and good neighborliness between the two states.

Communique Issued on Talks

MB201756 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1705 GMT 20 Feb 84

[Joint communique on talks between a South African delegation led by Foreign Minister Roelof Botha and a Mozambique delegation led by Jacinto Veloso, the minister of state in the office of the president for economic affairs, held in Maputo on 20 February — read by Jacinto Veloso]

[Text] On 20 February 1984, talks between delegations from Mozambique and South Africa took place in Maputo. The delegations were led by myself, minister in the office of the president for economic affairs, and Roelof Botha, the South African foreign minister. The Mozambique delegation also included Oscar Monteiro, the minister of justice; Sergio Vieira, deputy natonal defense minister; and General Joaquim Munhepe, the state secretary for national defense.

The South African delegation also included Louis le Grange, the minister of law and order [as heard], and General Malan, the minister of defense.

His Excellency President Samora Moises Machel received in audience the South African ministers of foreign affairs, law and order, and defense. During the audience, President Samora Machel reaffirmed the principles of peace, stability, progress, and good neighborliness which are at the center of the present talks between Mozambique and South Africa.

The two ministerial delegations reviewed the activities of the working groups on security, economic issues, Cahora Bassa, and tourism, and expressed their satisfaction on the progress achieved. They also agreed on the fundamental principles with regard to the issues of security between the two countries, and

expressed the intention to reach a formal agreement on this issue.

The two sides reaffirmed their conviction that the problems of southern Africa must be solved by the states of the region themselves. They came to the conclusion that the conflict, which for a long period has affected the region, has hampered progress in the solution of the common problems of the region.

The South African delegation brought up the issue of properties belonging to South African citizens at the time of independence. Both delegations agreed to study the issue to implement proposals which may bring about practical solutions to this issue.

Botha Comments Before Departing

MB201859 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1800 GMT 20 Feb 84

[Excerpts] Mozambique and South Africa have announced their intention of entering into a formal agreement concerning security arrangements between the two countries. The announcement came at the end of a day of talks in Maputo between high-level Mozambique and South African delegations. In a joint statement issued before the South African team left Maputo this evening, the two sides said they had reached an agreement on the central principles concerning security arrangements. They agreed that the southern African region had been plagued by conflict for too long, and this had retarded progress in the resolution of the regions common problems.

The Mozambique side at the talks was led by Major General Jacinto Veloso, minister in the presidency for economic affairs, while South Africa's delegation was headed by Foreign Minister Roelof Botha.

Answering reporters' questions at Maputo Airport before leaving, Mr Botha said both governments were working on the details and formulation of a security agreement, but he could not say when it would be signed. He said that in terms of the agreement, the two governments would not allow any form of subversion against each other. During today's discussions, the two delegations reviewed the activities of bilateral working groups which have been set up to discuss security, economic affairs, the Cahora Bassa Dam, and tourism.

The final statement expressed satisfaction at the progress which had been made.

Optimism Expressed on Cahora Bassa Talks

MB201549 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1400 GMT 20 Feb 84

[Text] A source close to the Administrative Council of the Cahora Bassa hydroelectric enterprise said that there were great expectations and optimism with regard to the results of the tripartite talks between Mozambique, Portugal, and South Africa on Cahora Bassa.

Several days ago, delegations from the three nations met in the Portuguese capital, Lisbon, to discuss issues connected with the security of energy supply to South Africa from Cahora Bassa and tariffs to be paid by South Africa for energy consumption. The 900 km high-tension powerline crossing Mozambique territory to South Africa has been the target of actions by armed bandits who receive South African support. The acts of sabotage have been constant, the source close to the Administrative Council of Cahora Bassa told AIM. The source added that following recent talks between Mozambique and South African authorities, the acts of sabotage have been considerably reduced.

Portugal, which is the biggest shareholder of the Cahora Bassa capital, with an investment amounting to 18,370 million meticals, is the country most affected by the sabotage.

Machel Addresses SADCC Defence Ministers

MB180650 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 17 Feb 84

[Text] Presdient Samora Machel told the defense and security ministers of the Southern African Development Coordination Conference [SADCC] member countries who have been meeting in Maputo, that in order to promote the region's social and economic development it is necessary to first ensure peace and stability in Southern Africa. The Mozambique head of state made this statement early this afteroon in Maputo when he received the ministers and delegations attending the eighth ministerial meeting of the International Defense and Security Committee of the SADCC member countries, which took place in the Mozambique capital.

Field Marshal Samora Machel underlined the fundamental role played by the defense and security organizations of the nine SADCC countries. We must be well aware that the defense of sovereignty and protection of territorial integrity are paramount, the supreme leader of the Mozambique revolution said. President Samora Machel said the eighth ministerial meeting was held within the spirit which motivates the SADCC member countries to make social and economic advances for the peoples of southern African. However, he recalled that these objectives could only be achieved with the establishment of peace and security.

Field Marshal Samora Machel reiterated the principle for the independence of Namibia, and once again rejected any linkage between the presence of Cuban troops in the People's Republic of Angola and the Namibian issue. He said that like the situations of Cameroon and Togo, also former German colonies in Africa, Namibia should have been independent 20 years ago.

Frontline Defense Ministers End Maputo Meeting

MB200558 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 19 Feb 84

[Text] Lesotho and other Frontline ministers of defense and security have agreed in Maputo on the need to increase and strengthen cooperation and solidarity for defense and security among their countries. The ministers met in the Mozambique capital on 16 and 17 February, according to a communique issued last night.

They discussed and reviewed issues of mutual interest on defense and security in the region. They expressed great concern over the growing military attacks and assistance rendered by the Pretoria regime to gangs of armed bandits with the objective of destabilizing the states in the region.

The communique says that the ministers in charge of defense and security of the Frontline States and Lesotho vehemently condemned all military attacks and economic and political provocations by South Africa, and called for the immediate withdrawal of South African troops from Angola.

NAMIBIA

Van Niekerk on Angolan Pledge to SWAPO

MB171738 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 17 Feb 84

[Text] The administrator-general of South-West Africa, Dr Willie van Niekerk, says the Angolan Government has undertaken to keep SWAPO and Cuban forces out of southern Angola. Addressing a news conference in Windhoek, Dr Van Niekerk said the undertaking was a result of the recent southern African peace talks between South Africa, Angola, and the United States. He said the tripartite talks in Lusaka yesterday were one of the most historic meetings in recent years concerning South-West Africa. He said the parties concerned were looking forward to a complete end to the war on the South-West African border.

Dr Van Niekerk was asked by newsmen to comment on a report that the SWAPO leader, Sam Nujoma, had pledged to continue the war despite any agreement between South Africa and Angola. The administrator-general said that if SWAPO did not like the situation, then it would have to complain to the Angolan Government.

Nujoma said earlier at a news conference in London that the struggle in South-West Africa would continue, whether or not there was an agreement between other forces. He said that the war would only end when an agreement was concluded between SWAPO and South Africa, which would lead to the implementation of the UN Security Council Resolution 435. He said SWAPO had never fought inside Angola, but only within South-West Africa. He said unless disengagement was followed by an agreement to implement Resolution 435, the resistance to oppression, as he put it, would continue. He said the Angolan Government had so far not said that SWAPO should discontinue operating from Angola. He repeated that SWAPO was ready to sign a cease-fire agreement with South Africa on terms of Resolution 435.

Our London correspondent reports that the news conference ended with a clash between Nujoma and the chairman of the all-party South-West Africa group in the British House of Commons, Mr Nicholas Winterton. Mr Winterton demanded to know when Nujoma had last visited South-West Africa, and whether he had any contact with the internal parties in the territory. Nujoma replied that Mr Winterton was a British citizen, and therefore had nothing to do with South-West Africa.

Joint Disengagement Commission To Meet in 2 Weeks

MB171633 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 17 Feb 84

[Text] The joint commission which has been formed by South Africa and Angola to supervise the withdrawal of South African troops from southern Angola will meet again within the next 2 weeks. The head of the South-West African Division of the Department of Foreign Affairs, Mr Dave Stewart, said in Windhoek that the next meeting of the commission would probably take place in Angola. The commission, which was formed in Lusaka during talks between delegations from South Africa, Angola, and the United States, had its first meeting in the Zambian capital yesterday.

Mr Stewart said several military advisers had been included in the commission. Yesterday, the minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, announced that South Africa and Angola had agreed on a date for the withdrawal of South African troops from Angola. Mr Botha said it had been decided at the meeting in Lusaka that a joint commission would supervise the new arrangements, and that Americans could be included in the commission.

Multiparty Conference Welcomes Haig Visit

MB201540 Johannesburg International Service in English 1500 GMT 20 Feb 84

[Text] The Multiparty Conference on the constitutional future of South-West Africa/Namibia has expressed the hope that the visit to Windhoek of the former American secretary of state, General Alexander Haig, will lead to greater U.S. involvement in the territory. The conference groups together most of the political parties in South-West Africa/Namibia.

The chairman of the conference, Mr Moses Katjiuongua, says he has asked Gen Haig to convey a request for greater American involvement to President Ronald Reagan of the United States. Mr Katjiuongua said, after Gen Haig had addressed the Multiparty Conference, that ties of friendship between South-West Africa/Namibia and the United States would mean a lot for the territory. If such ties were established, he said, the residents would not disappoint the American Government. He said the Multiparty Conference desired an independence for the territory which would not pose a military or security threat to any other country in southern Africa.

SAPA Reports U.S. Observer Office to Open

MB210840 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0826 GMT 21 Feb 84

[Text] Windhoek, Feb 21, SAPA — The United States plans to staff an office in Windhoek to help monitor the disengagement of South African Forces from southern Angola, a U.S. Embassy spokesman said in Cape Town today.

No date has yet been fixed for the opening of the office, but it was reported in Windhoek that a group of between six and eight

American officials were expected to arrive in Windhoek tomorrow. The U.S. spokesman told SAPA that the establishment of a joint monitoring commission between South Africa and Angola was part of the bilateral agreement made in Lusaka last week. The U.S. had offered to assist, if requested, with a small contingent of about four officials, the spokesman said. The office of the administrator general of SWA/Namibia, Dr Willie van Niekerk, was not immediately available for comment.

Nujoma Urges UN To Arrange Direct Talks

MB180808 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1900 GMT 17 Feb 84

[Text] SWAPO President Sam Nujoma has said he wants the UN secretary general to arrange direct talks with South Africa and SWAPO. Nujoma reportedly called for the talks after a meeting with British Foreign Minister Geoffrey Howe. He says the talks should be about a cease-fire and the implementation of UN Resolution 435 for Namibia. He claims SWAPO is prepared to talk to Namibian administrator-general Willie van Niekerk. Nujoma says his discussions with Howe were constructive. He says the British Government has pledged its support for the UN resolution for Namibia.

Nujoma Says SWAPO To Respect Disengagement

MB191250 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1100 GMT 19 Feb 84

[Text] Sam Nujoma, the president of the Namibian Liberation Movement SWAPO has said SWAPO will respect the military disengagement of South African troops from southern Angola. Speaking in Paris, Mr Nujoma said that SWAPO had no objection to any peace efforts in southern Africa, but he added that South African military disengagement from southern Angola should be followed up by the implementation of the UN resolution on Namibian independence, because otherwise, he said, it would be meaningless.

SOUTH AFRICA

Haig's Comments on U.S. Africa Policy Reported

MB200729 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 20 Feb 84

[Text] The former American secretary of state, General Alexander Haig, says he believes that the countries of southern Africa can trust the United States to be consistent in its policies towards the subcontinent. Gen Haig, who was in office when the latest American initiative in southern Africa was launched, said in an interview with the South African Broadcasting Corporation that the track record of the Reagan administration in the past 3 years had been one of steady-handed consistency.

He said the United States had been successful in encouraging self-enlightenment among leaders of southern Africa. Today these leaders clearly recognize that their future does not lie with the East and the Soviet Union, who brought only arms, insurgency, and terror. Their future lay with the West which provided aid and technology. Gen Haig said the essence of constructive engagement was involvement, rather than bludgeoning or pressure tactics, to effect reform.

ZAMBIA

Kaunda Aide Says Zambia 'Delighted' Over Lusaka Talks

MB171846 Johannesburg International Service in English 1500 GMT 17 Feb 84

[Text] A special adviser to President Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia, Mr Mulimu Punabantu, says his government is delighted with the way the Lusaka talks went. Mr Punabantu said the talks had opened the way for independence in South-West Africa/Namibia. The Johannesburg newspaper, *THE STAR*, said the Zambian Government adviser expressed his pleasure at the success of his country's role as honest broker in the talks.

ZIMBABWE

Cuban Deputy Minister Arrives for 2-day Visit

MB200740 Harare Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 20 Feb 84

[Text] The Cuban deputy foreign minister, Comrade Oscar Oramas, arrived in Harare last night for a 2-day official visit to Zimbabwe. He arrived from Botswana, where he held talks with President Quett Masire and other government officials on matters of mutual interest.

Speaking to reporters before leaving for Harare, Comrade Oramas said Cuban troops would not leave the People's Republic of Angola until they have fulfilled their engagement in that country.

He said both countries made a joint declaration earlier this month to this effect. Comrade Oramas has already visited Angola, Mozambique, Lesotho, and Zambia. From Zimbabwe he goes to Tanzania before returning home.

Meets Foreign Minister

MB201854 Harare Domestic Service in English 1745 GMT 20 Feb 84

[Text] The visiting Cuban deputy foreign minister, Comrade Oscar Oramas, today held his first round of talks with the minister of foreign affairs, Comrade Witness Mangwende.

No details of the talks were given, but a spokesman for the Cuban Embassy in Harare said they were on bilateral issues.

Comrade Oramas, who arrived in the country from Botswana last night, is also scheduled to hold high-level talks with other government representatives. He has already visited Angola, Mozambique, Lesotho, and Zambia, where he held similar talks with government officials.

Mugabe Will Not Observe Constitution If Reelected
MB180848 Harare Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 18 Feb 84

[Text] If ZANU-PF is re-elected to power, it will not observe a Constitution which is not flexible enough for a government which is in the process of change and growth. The prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, made the declaration when he spoke at a Law Society of Zimbabwe dinner in Harare yesterday. Comrade Mugabe said the party would go ahead and establish a one-party state, taking into account the wishes of the people, and regardless of whether the Constitution was against them. He pointed out that a Constitution which invalidated the political will of the majority cannot be called a morally valid law.

The prime minister told the dinner, which was attended by several Harare based lawyers, that a constitution can only be regarded as normally valid if it expresses the principal issues of the society which it is intended to serve.

Comrade Mugabe urged members of the legal profession to be committed to socialism and assist in providing free legal services to the people, adding that justice should not be available only to those with money.

The government, he said, is in the process of training more Zimbabweans as lawyers at the University of Zimbabwe to alleviate the shortage which has been caused by the drainage since independence.